

HOUSEHOLD NUMBER COMFORT

*The Key to Happiness and Success
in over a Million and a Quarter Homes*

DEVOTED TO ART, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND THE HOME CIRCLE.

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COMFORT

The Key to

Happiness and Success in over
A Million and a Quarter Homes.

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Devoted to

Art, Literature, Science, and the Home Circle.

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CONTENTS

	Page
CRUMBS OF COMFORT	2
HEART TRICKS; or, Dying for a Kiss (concluded)	2 & 29
Freda Summerfield	
A FEW WORDS BY THE EDITOR	3
BILL BAMBOOZZLE; or, Dodging His Destiny	3 & 38
(continued) Glenn and Jessica Guernsey	
FAITHFUL SHIRLEY (Continued) Mrs.	
George Sheldon	4, 16, 28, 36 & 38
COMFORT SISTERS' CORNER	5, 7, 11, 14 & 21
CREATURES OF DESTINY; or, Where Love	
Leads (Continued) Charles Garvice	6, 20, 33
HOUSEHOLD CONVENIENCES FOR COM-	
FORT READERS	8
COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS Con-	
ducted by Uncle Charlie	-9, 12, 31, 33 & 41
IN AND AROUND THE HOME. Fancy Work	
Conducted by Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson	10 & 11
PRETTY AND USEFUL HOUSEHOLD	
HELPS EASY TO MAKE	11
PRETTY GIRLS' CLUB Conducted by	
Katherine Booth	13
BEDELIA'S YOUNG ST. PATRICK Joseph	
F. Novak	14
POULTRY FARMING FOR WOMEN Mrs.	
Kate V. St. Maur	15 & 27
MODERN FARMER	17 & 27
KITCHEN INDEX TO SKILLFUL METH-	
ODS The A. B. C. to Housekeeping	18 & 19
HOME DRESSMAKING HINTS Geneva	
Gladding	22 & 23
PRESIDENT'S WILSON'S INAUGURATION	
SPRING RENOVATING AND HOUSE	
CLEANING	24 & 25
VETERINARY INFORMATION	29
A CORNER FOR BOYS Conducted by Uncle	
John	30
CHILDREN'S JOLLY HOUR With Uncle	
John	32
TWO WHEEL CHAIRS IN FEBRUARY	34
HOME-MAKERS' KITCHEN HELPS	34
HOME LAWYER	35
CURRENT EVENTS	35
MANNERS AND LOOKS	37
TALKS WITH GIRLS	39
FAMILY DOCTOR	40
INFORMATION BUREAU	42
TOLD ON THE STOOP	43

Crums of Comfort

There are men to whom love is religion.
There is virtue sometimes in our sinning.
He who tells for another forgets his own needs.
Results and not causes are what we should measure.
The false chink of flattery's coin jingles disagreeably on a sincere heart.
Drop the seed of ambition in small and weak natures and it will grow like weeds.
It is in nearness to life's darkest phases of sorrow that one's own words find relief.
With some people when sin ceases to please they give up sinning and become pious.
We cannot judge men and women as a class because each has its own distinct place.
It is lack of perception, rather than lack of heart that makes the world seem selfish.
There are women so terribly good that they discourage a man and he goes to the bad.
The world lives and thrives not through its heroes, but through its wives and mothers.
"Waste not, want not" is a splendid maxim to apply to all lines of business, but it seems to fit farming in every department.
Take heed of thy friends. A faithful friend is a strong defense, and he that hath found such a one hath found a treasure.
Get rid of the most agreeable acquaintance you have if he proves unprincipled. You may choose your company, but you cannot have two kinds.
If a man does not make new friendships as he advances through life, he will soon find himself left alone. A man should keep his friendships in constant repair.
Flying from old troubles that we know too well to greater ones that we know not of is a bad and fruitless habit. New times and new problems will come fast enough. Let us live today.
To do your work because you must, to do your work as a slavery, and then, having got it done as speedily and easily as possible, to look somewhere else for enjoyment, that makes a very dreary life.—Phillips Brooks.

Heart Tricks; or, Dying for a Kiss

By Freda Summerfield

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SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTER

Alma (her last name not given), a young lady of refinement, being left friendless and homeless on the death of her father obtains employment in a flower store in the city where she makes the acquaintance of Russel Ames, a wealthy customer of the shop. Ames treats her kindly but manifests no affection for her, and when she loses her position at the beginning of the dull summer season and is unable to find other employment he offers to marry her with the understanding that there is no love on either side. He promises to treat her respectfully and provide for her luxuriously. All he asks of her is that she shall so conduct herself as to bring no discredit on his good name which is his most cherished possession. There her obligation will end. As an explanation of his strange proposal he tells her that for reasons of his own, which he does not state, he wishes to introduce a woman as his wife. She accepts his terms, married immediately and goes to a fashionable seashore resort for the season. At first she is perfectly happy in her luxurious ease, elegant clothes and beautiful jewels with which he provides her. Also he is very kind and attentive, but consistent with his agreement he never offers to caress her. Meanwhile she falls in love with him and becomes very unhappy because he does not reciprocate her affection. When beautifully dressed for a ball he presents her a necklace of sparkling gems and with an admiring look clasps it about her neck, and she offers her lips for a longed-for kiss. At first he seems inclined to grant her the token of love, but he refrains and a strange, sad, almost frightened look overspreads his face. She is disappointed, humiliated, indignant; she makes no comment, but by her subsequent conduct shows her resentment, which distresses him. He seems to be struggling to keep suppressed a love of her which is springing up in his heart. A few days later a romantic incident brings her into his arms, he kisses her for the first time and confesses his love, but says that something mean that he has done makes him ashamed, unworthy of her. He offers to explain, but she does not wish to hear it, saying that if he loves her nothing else matters. He insists that in fairness he should tell her so she may decide for herself.

CHAPTER II.

"NOTHING will make a difference," I said quietly. "And I don't want any choice. If it belongs to the past—let it stay there! If it makes you unhappy—don't think about it! I am not afraid to take you as you are. I trust you."

"Oh, God, Little Girl, how sweet and dear you are," he whispered in moved tones.

"And I was amply repaid for my words."

"I'll make you happy, dear," he said.

"I am happy! But Russel, tell me, this thing which troubles you—was it because of it you fought your love—and would not kiss me that day?"

"Yes," he said in a low tone.

I laughed. "You silly old precious darling—how little you know a woman. I was breaking my heart over you; and you would keep on breaking it because of some silly thing that is past."

"That's it, Sweet. It was silly; it was a crazy fool thing." He shook his shoulders—and caught me to him. "We're going to be regular honey-mooners, Honey. Let's go and shock the natives."

And we accepted our happiness; went toward the hotel hand in hand. The sun came out; the rain was over; the earth was newly washed—joyously gleaming for us.

September 3rd.

I can't find anything to write about. I'm just happy! happy! happy!

September 6th.

Russel expects some old friends tomorrow. He looked distressed when he heard they were coming. I wonder why?

September 7th.

Russel's friends haven't arrived as yet. I am rather curious to see Mrs. Martin. I heard two of the ladies talking about her. They said she was a beauty, and they hinted—Oh, I could have killed them—that Russel was an old flame of hers—and that she threw him over. I don't be-

lieve it. No woman would throw Russel over. She'd love him—if he'd let her.

September 8th.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin came today. She is very beautiful—golden hair—brown eyes and a rose-leaf complexion. And she is lovely to talk to—of that Madonna type whom everyone calls "sweet." Her husband is rather ordinary I think. I have heard he is vulgarly speaking, rolling in money. I wonder if that is why she married him.

September 12th.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin are with us a great deal. I don't like it. But I cannot be rude. Neither can Russel—I suppose. They are such old friends. Still, I wish he would not talk with Mrs. Martin by the hour. I hope I am not going to be a jealous little cat.

September 14th.

I am beginning to be unhappy. What can Russel have to say to Mrs. Martin that is so important? Today I watched them. She was so pale—and once a hurt look came into her eyes that any woman knows; and Russel looked so miserable and so earnest. And still I cannot say anything to Russel. Once I tried—but the words wouldn't come!

September 16th.

I might as well be frank with myself. I am jealous. And it hurts horribly!

September 19th.

We went automobiling today. Mrs. Martin sat with Russel. He was driving so I could watch them unobserved. Mr. Martin was as interesting as a block of wood. I think he went to sleep.

All my faith was torn from me in that ride. I felt myself growing bitter and enraged. Did he think I was a fool—that I would tamely sit back and let him give all his attention to another woman?

So I sat brooding and watching—weighing and dissecting—forgetting what I should have remembered—remembering what I should have forgotten—losing reason and justice and trust in my sweeping anger and wild jealousy.

When we reached the inn where we were to have supper I wanted bright lights—mad music—excitement to dance away the pain. We had just taken our seats when a young man strolled up to our table—a nice-looking, broad-shouldered, typical, clean-cut young fellow of the present day world. They all greeted him cordially. Mr. Martin even woke up and insisted that he join us.

After a slight hesitation he complied. A chair was placed for him next to mine. As he took his seat he accidentally pulled my skirt. He apologized. Our eyes met in a smile. Then it flashed upon me. Here was the instrument for my revenge! Russel had neglected me for Mrs. Martin. Well—I would see how he liked the treatment.

I turned smilingly to Mr. Howard and began an animated conversation. There was no mistaking my manner. After a moment of surprise he accepted the challenge. He was very obliging. We kept it up merrily. I laughed; dimpled; smiled daintily in his eyes. In fact I did everything that was horrid. And my satisfaction was that Russel was first stunned—then stern and angry. His brow grew blacker and blacker. And I was grimly glad. Let him feel the same sting that had wounded me for days! I became fiercely reckless. I did not care! I felt like a little savage. The knife was in my hand and I wanted to drive it deep!

When wine was opened, contrary to Russel's expressed wishes, and my own desire, I drank three or four glasses of champagne. It went to my head; like fire it coursed through my veins. My face began to flush; the words to stumble from my lips. I noticed the disdain on Mrs. Martin's face. It had the effect of enraging me. I don't know how far I would have gone in my angry defiance, had not Russel settled the matter by abruptly breaking up the party and driving home.

He did not speak a word to me though my place was now by his side. And by the time we reached the hotel I began to regain my senses; I felt overwhelmed with shame.

We reached our rooms. I was thoroughly frightened—and abjectly miserable. I began to dread what Russel would say.

But without glancing at me, he laid my wrap

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March, 1913.

on a chair, walked straight out of my room, into his own, and deliberately closed the door.

I remained where I was—staring blankly at the closed door! The room was spinning—my mind in chaos. What had I done? What had I done? How awful! I must have acted! Russel would not even speak to me!

Scarcely realizing—without giving myself time to think—I stumbled to his door. I knocked. I called him in a frantic whisper. I heard him cross the room. Then he opened his door.

His face was hard and set. "What do you want?"

I stared at him with drenched, frightened eyes. "Russel—don't."

"Don't what?"

"I twisted my hands together. 'Don't—act—like this—I gasped.

"How did you expect I would act?" coldly.

"I began to sob. 'Oh—could me! Tell me how angry you are! Don't—don't act as though you hated me!'"

"Hush!" sternly. "You are talking nonsense. But I don't feel exactly like caressing after your conduct this evening."

"I'm sorry! I'm sorry! But don't harden your heart against me. Scold me. Have it over!"

"Scolding is for children. You are not a child," curtly.

"Oh, Russel!" I turned from him and leaned against the door.

Then I felt his hand upon my shoulder. And two beloved arms swung me around. I was drawn back to his heart. For a minute he held me so, then he put me a little away, and said in the gentlest, saddest voice:

"Dear, you humiliated me beyond endurance this evening. It didn't seem to be you. I couldn't realize that it was my wife—the little woman I am generally so proud of—who shamed me—placed me in the most unpleasant and embarrassing positions."

That nearly broke my heart. Never in my life did anything so hurt me. And what drove it so deep—it was so deserved.

I clung to him, sobbing—whispering if he only would not talk so much to Mrs. Martin—she was so beautiful—sweet—* * * I was incoherent in my grief and shame * * * but I poured out my heart as a woman will when swept off her feet with emotion.

"Were you jealous of her?" he said in a queer tone.

"Dear, dearest, you were with her so much—you had so much to tell her. It hurt me—awfully!"

He framed my face with his hands. "You need not be jealous of her, little one. I love you! I did not dream you were unhappy. I promise I won't talk to her any more, dear."

"Was it business?" I asked. "If it was," bravely. "I'll try and not care."

He shook his head. "It is finished. It was only a misunderstanding. I straightened it out. That's all."

And smiles came back. I was content. I loved him and believed him.

September 25th.

The last few days have been ideal. Mrs. Martin's sister came today. She is divorced, and has one little girl—such a dear kiddie. Mrs. Martin hasn't much to say to me. I presume she is disgusted about that night at the inn. I'm too happy to let it bother me—much.

September 27th.

The weather is lovely. Funny thing—when I'm real, real happy I can't find a thing to write about except the weather.

September 30th.

Can a few days make such a difference? I suppose the world will come to a standstill in one minute. And people can go to smash in a second. Dear God, I think I'm going mad! Something is ticking, ticking like a crazy watch in my brain. I wish it would tick itself to death.

September 30th. (Afternoon).

Is it only three hours? Three thousand eternities is short compared to it! Was I happy only yesterday? Dear God—was I? I've forgotten. I hold the secret in my hand. Russel married me to revenge himself upon another woman. Mrs. Martin threw him over for a richer man. He vowed he'd make her suffer. I was the fool—the fool! Oh, I could kill him! The selfish cruelty of it! I wasn't considered—wasn't given a thought! A floating piece of humanity I was swept his way—used for his purpose.

I'm afraid to see him. I don't trust myself. I don't care if he loves me or not! It doesn't matter. Maybe he does care a little; but how he must have loved her to have gone to those lengths.

How I was tricked! The shame of it. That's what eats into my soul. I'll never forgive him—never! I'll strangle my love; I'll forget everything! No woman with pride could forgive this. She couldn't!

There is no sense in all this. I don't know what I'm saying. My head hurts so! I must control myself. If I wish to hurt him I must be calm. Anger always weakens and breaks me.

October 1st.

It is all over. I said awful things—dreadful things to Russel. He stood like a statue, except for his blazing eyes I would have thought him unmoved.

"Who gave you this information?" he asked tonelessly.

I laughed sneeringly. "I overheard Mrs. Martin talking to her sister. I assure you it was a very frank and confidential conversation; I had full benefit."

"You deliberately listened to a conversation not meant for your ears?"

"You do well to question a point of honor. You who tricked me with a lie? You—"

"Be silent!" His voice made me cower. It was a command given in a way no woman would have dared disregard.

"I have never lied to you," with harsh directness. "I saw you needed help. I trusted and liked you. I said I wanted to introduce a woman to the world as my wife. I gave you no other reason. You did not question. You seemed content. I thought the bargain was fair. I am not proud of the part I played. But I was very bitter and hurt. I did not dream we would grow to care for each other. If you will remember I would not even accept a kiss—because I felt I had not the right. I lived in hell those days. I cared—cared more than I had ever cared for the other woman. I was afraid to tell you—afraid you would leave me—afraid you would not care enough to forgive. A thousand things tormented me—kept me in fear of telling you. I cared so much I could not bear to see dislike—aversion in your eyes. It seemed easier to say nothing. Then at least you would be near me. Then that day. I tried to do the right thing. You remember—and your answer. God—I am only human! I did not want to tell you. It was not a pretty thing. And you made it so easy—were so trusting * * * I was mad enough to dream it might be pushed aside."

I wet my lips. "You should have told me," I managed.

He stared at me. Then laughed bitterly. "The usual reproach. Talk about a woman's generosity and faith—!" Turning on his heel he left me.

October 2nd.

Russel is going to leave "Clifton." He asked me whether I cared to accompany him to the city. I said I'd stay where I was for the present. He said: "Very well; do as you please. I leave tomorrow on the early morning train."

October 2nd. (Later.)

I said good by to Russel. I was neither angry nor grieved nor heartsick. I was only conscious of an overpowering fatigue. I went to bed and fell into a heavy sleep.

The first gleams of dawn were brightening the sky when I awoke. I sat up with a start. My hands pressed my heart. A weight of death and misery was there. My eyes burnt with tears; my whole being was possessed of sorrow.

I sat so a moment, choking back the sobs, searching dumbly for the reason of this sickening wave of emotion. And in a flash I knew.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 29.)

A Few Words by the Editor

TO THE WOMEN, the present and prospective home-makers of America, COMFORT again addresses its respectful salutation and dedicates this, its Household Number, hoping that it may help them more easily and better to perform the arduous duties of the most important and honorable of all callings.

"A thousand men can make a camp, but it takes a woman to make a home." So runs the Chinese proverb.

The home is the corner-stone of civilization, and on the purity and ennobling quality of its influences depend the destiny of the nation and the hope of the entire social fabric.

The home is woman's special domain, her grandest sphere of action and she naturally should be, and usually is, the dominating factor in shaping its influence.

We rejoice that most of our readers have good homes, by far the larger part of them on the farms or in the small towns beyond the pale of the demoralizing city influences.

One of the most alarming tendencies of the growth of our country is the rapidly increasing concentration of population in cities where a large portion of our people are crowded together in squalid tenements and mean lodging houses bearing no semblance of home and in which it is impossible to exist decently, difficult to maintain self-respect, and anything home-like is beyond hope.

The people debased by these degrading conditions of life already are so numerous that they have the balance of power in all our large cities and their votes can be relied on by the corrupt politicians who are in league with criminals and share in the wages of sin.

Keep your children under home influences as long as you can, and discourage their seeking employment in the cities which are already over-crowded.

The elevating influence of the country home must be exerted strenuously if, as a nation, we are to overcome the demoralizing activities of the city slums.

In view of the remarkable situation of public affairs attendant on the change of administration, which occurs on the fourth of this present March, consequent on the unprecedented revolution of public sentiment whereby Mr. Taft is compelled reluctantly, in obedience to the voice of the people, to step down and out and to yield the reins of government to President-elect Woodrow Wilson, we deem it a duty, not inconsistent with COMFORT'S non-partisan stand in politics, to review some of the more notable causes which have led to this result.

It is not our purpose, in what we are about to say, to promote or injure the cause of any political party, nor to advance the interests of any set of politicians.

If during the campaign we had denounced what are now generally acknowledged to have been the blunders which brought about the downfall of the late administration, we might have been suspected of attempting to influence the votes of our readers; but now that the election has passed into history it is proper that we should comment on, and important that all, and especially the leaders of the party now called to power should calmly consider the record of the past four years in order to avoid a repetition of its mistakes.

We intend no personal disparagement of Mr. Taft, and as he is now retiring to private life, in all probability never again to enter the political arena, we should not even mention his name in this connection were he not so closely identified with the subject that it cannot otherwise be discussed. Our

object is to present certain interesting facts and significant figures as food for reflection.

When Mr. Taft was elected in November, 1908, the people gave him 7,637,676 votes, which is 1,244,494 more than his opponent, Mr. Bryan received; he carried 29 states by good pluralities and even captured 2 of the 8 electoral votes of Maryland, giving him a total of 321 electoral votes against 162 for Mr. Bryan.

When Mr. Taft was inaugurated in March, 1909, he entered the presidency with as large a measure of popular confidence and good will as has been bestowed on any President since Washington. Yet, after four years' trial in office, when he asked the people last November to express their approval and reaffirm their confidence by accepting him as their ruler for a second term he met with the most crushing and humiliating defeat that ever relegated an unsatisfactory President to private life. By the most strenuous efforts aided by the federal office-holders and a large campaign fund he barely succeeded in carrying two small states, Vermont and Utah, which gave him a total of 8 electoral votes in 1912 in place of the 321 which he received in 1908.

What has Mr. Taft done to thus discredit himself with the people?

It behooves the party which has come into power in consequence of Mr. Taft's mistakes to profit also by his example; else its tenure of office will be short.

As President, Mr. Taft exhibited a strange combination of disastrous weakness and indecision in some directions and equally fatal stubbornness in others.

His weakness and indecision were glaringly manifested within his first six months of office by his being easily persuaded by Cannon and Aldrich to back down and abandon his first laudable efforts to induce Congress to reduce the tariff as promised in his party platform and by himself on the stump before election, and demanded by the people who had elected him on the faith of these pledges. In this he had an opportunity such as rarely comes even to a President to show himself a really great man. Here he should have used the "big stick" by promptly sending the Payne-Aldrich tariff act back to Congress with his veto. Had he done so, he would have had the clamorous support of the entire people with which he could have clubbed Congress into doing the right thing. But by the weak and vacillating course which he pursued he thus early lost the confidence of the people and the respect of Congress.

He posed as a progressive, and we give him credit for entertaining a mistaken belief that he was one. But he surrounded himself with a set of reactionary officials who seemed to gain a complete mastery over him. This added another cause of popular distrust.

Accusations and exposures of alleged graft in certain departments were made public with the result that in several cases he sustained and retained the accused, and dismissed or forced the informer out of the public service. The people lost all patience with his attitude in such matters. He was forever denouncing muck-rakers instead of applying his energies to the detection and punishment of muck-makers.

The results of his prosecutions of the biggest and most dangerous trusts were simply farcical and have become the stock subject of endless caricature.

Finally sensing the seriousness of his tariff revision blunder, in his effort to offset its consequences he committed the further folly of negotiating his so-called reciprocity treaty with Canada and forced it through Congress contrary the ad-

vice of the best men in his party and against the protests of the farmers and fishermen whose interests it would have sacrificed without benefiting any others except those of certain great trusts.

Another pet project of his, the Commerce Court, has proved a nuisance by infringing on the powers and undoing much valuable work of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

A hobby of Mr. Taft's has been to raise the postage rate on newspapers and magazines. In his message to the first regular session of Congress he recommended a large increase in rate and tried to force the passage of a bill which in effect would have driven most magazines out of the mails and put many others entirely out of business in consequence of the prohibitive rate of postage. He hazarded this as a leap in the dark without any knowledge of the publishing business and regardless of consequences to the publishers and the reading public. While the government is expending large sums to promote education, Mr. Taft's policy, if adopted, would seriously cripple or destroy one of the greatest educational factors in this country. Such magazines as should survive would be compelled to raise their subscription rates enough to cover the increase in postage, and thus the tax would fall on the subscribers, that is on the people. Having once mounted this hobby he persistently rode it all through his term of office.

These are some of the blunders and follies which wrecked the administration of President Taft, and it is to be hoped that President Wilson and his advisers will profit by the example thus plainly before their eyes, as we believe they will.

We congratulate President Wilson on the favorable auspices under which he enters his high office, and we wish him a successful administration. We believe that he has the strength and courage to wield the big stick and to apply the veto when necessary for the good of the country.

Easter greetings to you all; and may Easter Sunday find you well and happy. Easter Sunday is the Sunday of Sundays. Christians keep Sunday, the first day of the week, holy in honor of the Resurrection of the Lord and Savior which took place in the early morning of that day. We frequently hear it called the "Sabbath," which it is not. The Sabbath, concerning which the Bible has so much to say, is the Jewish day of rest and comes on Saturday of each week now as it always has. Sunday is more appropriately called "the Lord's Day," which it is, having been substituted for the Jewish Sabbath by the early Christians for the reason already stated. So each Sunday commemorates the Resurrection of our Lord, and Easter Sunday celebrates the anniversary of that sublime event, at once the crowning glory of Christian hope and the corner-stone of faith.

Easter comes uncommonly early this year, on March 23. It never comes earlier than March 23, nor later than April 25. It will not come so early as March 23 again until the year 2008. The reason why Easter Sunday moves about between the two dates mentioned is that the Resurrection occurred on the first day of the first week after the feast of the Jewish Passover which always comes on the full of the Moon of the first month of the Jewish year. The Jewish year begins in the spring and is made up of lunar months varying from twelve to thirteen to the year, which, of course, causes quite a variation of the time of the Passover. Easter still follows the Jewish instead of our modern calendar.

Comfort's Editor.

BILL BAMBOOZLE; or, Dodging His Destiny

By Glenn & Jessica Guernsey

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CHAPTER I.

BILL BAMBOOZLE was not his real name. Originally he had been William Bamboosel. The gradation to Bamboozle was too easy to be overlooked by the factious young gentlemen in whose society William misspent his youth. Moreover, it must be confessed, the alias fitted him as perfectly as his elegantly-tailored clothes. Bamboozling was his profession. Fleecing the lambs which gamble on the green was to him a sport, as well as a source of bread, beef and booze.

William's parents died while he was yet a youth. An uncle, who had made a few millions in soap, or sardines, or something, sent him to Harvard, but his college career was cut short when the faculty learned of the amazing dexterity with which he was handling the "pasteboards."

As there are but four aces in a normal pack of cards, when a fifth ace turns up during the course of a friendly game, some sapient and suspicious person is like to become peeved. When this happened in a game in which Bill was the winner of big money he was blamed for the circumstance which he could not explain. Guilty or not, he had to go in spite of his protestations that it was all the result of jealousy because of his superior skill as a player.

Little birds, which are notoriously always on the job when there is any tattletale-ing to be done, hot-footed—or rather, hot-winged—bore the tale to the millionaire uncle. When William returned from Harvard, uncle was primed and waiting with the customary "Begone, graceless youth and never dare to da-arken my doars again."

As this purports to be a story, and not a biography, it is unnecessary to explain by what devious means William thenceforth earned or rather beat a living and his alias of Bill Bamboozle. Suffice it to say that he did it with neatness and dispatch, nor did the process cause any observable perspiration of the forehead.

There were times, however, when the season for suckers seemed indefinitely closed. This was one of them. Bill, who could usually put a hand in a bulging pocket and make a cheerful noise like unto gold pieces clinking one against another, was in the financial condition adequately described as "broke." Worse, the weather was decidedly cold and nasty, and New York no pleasant place for one who customarily spent the winter months in some fair Southern land of sweet idleness.

Therefore Bill puzzled his brain to hit upon some person likely to respond feelingly to a "touch." But one name presented itself. Bill's uncle's partner had a son, who was a lawyer, and a daughter, who was a peach. Regarding the young lady, it may be said that if Bill had ever entertained an ambition to become an honest and upright citizen, loved and respected by all who knew him, it was due to his acquaintance with Miss Elizabeth Barton. There had been a time when he imagined the young lady returned his affection. But the deceased past must con-

duct the obsequies over its own remains. Bill's uncle's partner's son, who was a lawyer, was in his office when Bill called. He complied so readily with Bill's request for a temporary loan of one hundred dollars that that young gentleman regretted that he had not asked for more. Incidentally, Bill slipped a few of the attorney's letterheads and envelopes into his pocket, unnoticed. Such stationery, properly used, might some time add eclat to a delicate financial operation.

CHAPTER II.

The money borrowed from the lawyer bought some needed clothing and paid Bill's passage to Bermuda, the land of lovely lanes that curve and wind between hedges of pink oleanders, stately cedars and towering palms, broad fields of wax-like lilies, fair symbols of immortality; tiny islets dotted with snow-white cottages, set in a sea of green, and blue, and purple, clear as crystal; red-coated soldiers of Britain; more foliage and flowers; little black pickaninnies, bubbling over with innocent joy of living; white sails dancing in the sun; a people honest and kind, singing at their work from pure gladness of heart; dull and drowsy droning of the sea, the bare of a barge from a distant hill; more sea, trees, flowers, and other aquatic, horticultural and agricultural details.

Such items as the above constitute the local color of our veracious tale. Those who have visited Bermuda will immediately recognize the stage setting as appertaining to the fairyland isles of enchantment, the land of the lily and the rose, and also the onion, forty-five hours from frost to flowers and New York's holiday rhubarb.

Considering the charms catalogued above, it must be admitted that Mr. William Bamboosel displayed wisdom in the selection of his winter home. He found that Bermuda had negative virtues, too, such as an utter absence of railroads, snakes, automobiles, daily newspapers, trolley cars and earthquakes.

It may also be said that there are numerous drawbacks and discomforts incident to life in Bermuda. Not the least of these, as another literary light has pointed out, are the ancient pianos, which continually muss up the gentle zephyrus with cruel abandon, persistence and sang froid.

There are degrees of violence which may be committed upon a defenseless musical instrument, ranging from mere assault and battery to murder in the first degree. The sound which smote the ears of Mr. William Bamboosel—who had disembarked from a steamer at Hamilton an hour before and was now basking in the bland beauties of the countryside—gave proof that some poor piano was being assassinated in cold blood. The turmoil issued from a white coral-stone cottage of considerable size, squatting in the midst of scenery such as has been described in the first paragraph of this chapter, and with an onion orchard in the rear. Presently the piano gave a final despairing shriek, and shortly afterward a woman emitted herself from the front door.

Bill stared at her curiously. She was a short, stout person, with what a physician would call

edematous indications, and a growth of hairy fuzz upon her upper lip gave her countenance a doubtful, epicene cast. Her squat figure was clothed in a neat, princess gown of silk, which failed to fit her form with any degree of accuracy. Her hat was efflorescent and egrotious, and both millinery and gown warred violently with the eruptive and eruginous complexion of the wearer.

Mr. William Bamboosel stared in silent awe at the pudgy figure and ugly face. In his wide knowledge of womankind and woman unkind, nothing like this had ever before broken upon his vision. Positively she was the homeliest he had ever seen. Awe changed to curiosity. With the enthusiasm of a naturalist who has discovered a new species of flora or fauna, he determined to learn something more of this strange creature.

In a hospitable land such as Bermuda, a desire for a glass of water is sufficient excuse for loquacities. With the air of a prince, Bill made known his inward aridity to the woman whose supreme ugliness had for the moment captivated him.

"Good morning," said Bill, bowing in his most engaging manner. "May I so far offend the proprieties as to ask for a glass of water? I have walked far," he explained, "and I am very thirsty."

A woman smirched and blushed in delighted acquiescence. As Bill quaffed the liquid she brought him, he eyed her surreptitiously. Nearer observation added no beauties. But Bill saw that he had made a favorable impression and proceeded to take advantage of it as the basis of a scheme to beat his board provided he could persuade her family to accommodate him.

CHAPTER III.

"I have large and important commercial interests in New York," Mr. William Bamboosel lied glibly to the woman's father, Mr. Jeremiah Jenkins, "and too close attention to business has made of me a physical and nervous wreck."

Mr. Jenkins gazed at the speaker in calculating awe, regretting that he had not charged him more than three pounds (about fifteen dollars) a week for board and room. Mrs. Jeremiah Jenkins and Miss Caroline Jenkins, the homely daughter, murmured in sympathy.

"Metropolitan life must be very trying," commented Miss Jenkins, affectuously, with a slow, sad simper for the sufferer. Her voice grated gurglingly from her flaccid throat and had a tone peculiarly rasping on the shattered nerves of the guest.

"You are quite right," agreed Mr. Bamboosel. "But I am sure a few months in this sylvan retreat, in the society of such charming people," he bowed gracefully at host and hostess and their stout daughter—"will work wonders in the way of rejuvenation."

Again Miss Jenkins smirched, while her father felt another spasm of regret over a lost opportunity. From the time Mr. Bamboosel had begged a glass of water from Miss Jenkins, negotiations had proceeded rapidly, and he now found himself the boarder of Mr. Jenkins, and the honored guest of mother Jenkins and daughter Jenkins.

The head of the house of Jenkins was an angular, emaciated man, as thin as his daughter was plump. His principal mental characteristic—cunning, curiosity and cupidity—were easily to be read in his pale, watery blue eyes. Mrs. Jenkins was a faded, worn little person, not without certain negative charms, whose life was one continual apology.

"What is your line of business?" inquired Mr. Jenkins, as he speared a potato on the end of his knife and carried it hastily to his mouth. He followed with a string of interrogations which would have done credit to a professional investigator. All of the inquiries Mr. Bamboosel answered with lucidity and detail. The inquisition completed, Mr. Jenkins lapsed into gloomy silence. Only three pounds a week, and his guest a millionaire.

The repast concluded, Mr. Bamboosel and Miss Jenkins sought out a seat in the garden. Night was falling, but the moon cast a radiance over the Bermudian Eden that made their trying place idyllic. They caught a distant echo of the waves pounding upon the reefs. The balmy breeze was laden with the fragrant incense of a multitude of flowers. It was the time and the place for love-making, and unconsciously he placed his arm around the shoulders of his companion. A wandering moonbeam lighted up her face, and he quickly jerked away the encircling arm. Miss Jenkins gurgled in pleased delight.

"Bermuda is very beautiful," admitted the lady, "but how I long to escape from it to the big world beyond." She threw out her hands in ecstatic rapture toward the general direction of New York. "I was born here," she went on, "and I have lived here all my life." A sigh served to accentuate the dreariness of such a career. "I have never seen a railroad train, or a street car, or a high building, nor any of the wonderful things you have over there."

Her voice trailed away into hopelessness, and William pressed her hand in sympathy, whereat her face waxed erubescant. She moved a little closer to her companion, who, by closing his eyes, was able to maintain the contiguity without screaming.

"Car-o-line," came a harsh voice from the house, "you will take your death of cold." Mr. Jenkins was a careful man, and, while he was anxious to marry off his daughter, he did not care to take chances with a stranger whose only recommendation was himself.

Miss Jenkins vanished regretfully into the house, and was soon followed by Mr. Bamboosel. In the privacy of his room, he took stock of his assets. Three gold sovereigns and a few six-pences and shillings, less than twenty dollars all told, comprised his available wealth. Fortunately his host had not asked for payment in advance, but he realized that he could not long postpone the inevitable accounting.

After some deep and earnest thought, he sat down to write. The stationery he used was that taken from the office of his New York legal friend. He wrote in a cramped, peculiar style, which bore but slight resemblance to his natural bold hand. Then he placed the letter in one of the lawyer's envelopes, addressed it to himself, (CONTINUED ON PAGE 33.)

FAITHFUL SHIRLEY

By Mrs. Georgie Sheldon

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Hamilton Vinling, a wealthy New Yorker, threatens to stop his son Clifton's allowance unless he cuts the acquaintance of a fast set and gives up his club. Angry words follow and Clifton leaves home with ten dollars—a loan from his sister Annie. Walking aimlessly near the East river, he rescues Shirley Livingstone, a refined, educated young girl from drowning and takes her to the home of Abby Knapp, his childhood nurse, to whom Shirley confides the story of her life. Left an orphan, John Hubbard, a cousin by adoption, assumes control of her money, and promises to befriend her. He loses her money and his family make her life unbearable. Clifton goes to Mr. Norwood, an old friend of his father, tells his troubles and asks for work. Desiring to marry his daughter to Clifton Vinling, Mr. Norwood takes him into his office where he does good work. Clifton visits his old nurse and the more he sees Shirley the less satisfied is he with his life. Through his influence Shirley recovers her clothing and five hundred dollars from John Hubbard. Clifton invites his old nurse and Shirley for a sail. Returning home the steamer takes fire. Shirley displays heroism in saving Abby Knapp and six children from drowning. Clifton declares his love to Shirley, who admits her love for him. Shirley, taking work home she has done for Mrs. Norwood, renders Hamilton Vinling a favor, by removing a splinter from his eye, for which he begs to command him if he can ever be of any service to her. Reaching Mrs. Norwood's home she is met by Blanche Norwood, who is overbearing and fault finding. Clifton calls upon his father and admits his love for and determination to marry Shirley Livingstone. Mr. Vinling objects and swears his son shall never marry her. Clifton secures a position for Shirley through Mr. Norwood, whose aunt, Madame Marton, a most eccentric woman, desires a companion. Mr. Norwood schemes with Mr. Vinling and induces Clifton to consent to go abroad on a business trip with him, and later admits his wife and Blanche will be in the party. Clifton expresses surprise and annoyance. Mr. Vinling prevents Clifton receiving letters from Shirley. Blanche admits to her father a conspiracy with Lurline Lovering, who is the guest of Lord Wallace. Madame Marton takes Shirley to her home at St. Sauveur. It is cold and cheerless. Shirley wins Madame Marton's heart and she allows Shirley to brighten the home with flowers and rare bric-a-brac. Going for a walk Shirley is confronted by a huge black-and-white mastiff.

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"How beautiful!" burst involuntarily from her lips, while her animated eyes roved admiringly over the exquisite picture before her.

"Is it not?" queried her companion, with a thrill of tenderness in his voice. "To me it is the most beautiful place in all the world, and I have seen much of it."

"You have no doubt noticed the beeches, Miss Livingstone," he presently observed.

"Yes, and they are magnificent," she replied, with eager appreciation.

"My great-grandfather imported them from the home of his ancestors, and set them out with his own hands," the young man explained, adding: "So you will understand that they are over a hundred years old, and of course everyone of them is a sacred heirloom because of this fact, and now, if you are not weary, will you come with me and let me show you Ivyhurst from another position."

Shirley readily assented.

Another short walk brought them to a little higher knoll, where, looking down, Shirley saw the side and rear of Ivyhurst, with its stables, its gardens, and hothouses, which were very extensive, while now she obtained a much broader view of the river beyond.

"It is an ideal home," she murmured, drawing in a long breath of admiration and delight.

"An ideal home," repeated the young man, in a tone which smote her heart with sudden pain; "what is your conception of an 'ideal home,' Miss Livingstone?"

Shirley darted a searching glance at him, afraid that she had wounded him, though unintentionally, by her remark.

"I was referring to the natural beauties of the place when I spoke," she said, "and surely, Lord Wallace, one could not conceive of a more delightful spot than Ivyhurst as it lies before us at this moment."

"That is true," he answered with a heavy sigh. "I realize that few people in the world have so goodly a heritage as mine; and yet, Miss Livingstone, it takes something more than 'natural beauty' to make an 'ideal home.'"

Shirley felt sure he must have known some great sorrow to cause him to speak thus, but after a moment of silence, she remarked, while her eyes rested on the extensive hothouses:

"I think that the master of Ivyhurst must be very fond of floriculture, judging from the little world of glass down yonder."

"I am passionately fond of flowers, Miss Livingstone, and I derive great comfort in watching their growth and development. There are certain plants that seem to me almost like companions. Does that sound extravagant to you?" Lord Wallace inquired with a smile.

"No," said Shirley, her face all aglow, "for I have often had the same feeling. Pansies for in-

estate, chatting upon various topics, until, reaching the gate which led into her grounds, Lord Wallace finally took a courteous leave of his companion, then, whistling authoritatively to his dog, he lifted his hat and went his way.

With a brighter and happier face than she had worn since leaving New York, Shirley tripped across the lawn, entered the house, and went up to her room.

But as she opened the door to her chamber, she stopped short upon the threshold, a look of amazement overspreading her face, a low exclamation of startled pleasure bursting from her lips.

CHAPTER XVIII.

SHIRLEY IS PLEASANTLY SURPRISED.

The sight that caused Shirley's astonishment was one which, under the circumstances, would have surprised anyone.

Just before her on the floor, which had looked so bare and cold, after she had, at madame's command, folded and put away the Indian shawl, there lay a beautiful Byzantine rug, in neutral tints, the pattern a dainty scroll-work inwrought with fleur-de-lis.

The room looked like a different place, and Shirley's face fairly shone with delight.

"Ah! now I know why she went off all by herself," she murmured, tears of self-reproach rushing to her eyes. "And how I wronged her by thinking that she was cross and angry with me. I will go this moment to thank and tell her how much I appreciate her kindness, and suiting the action to the word she turned, crossed the hall, and entered madame's sitting-room."

The woman was not there, and pushing on toward her chamber Shirley tapped lightly upon the door.

"Come in!" said a voice from within, and obeying the command the young girl entered, to find madame sitting in a stiff, straight-backed chair by an open window.

Shirley went directly to her side and laid in madame's lap her hat containing the winter-green berries and tender young shoots.

"I have been out for a walk and gathered these for you," she remarked.

Madame seized them eagerly.

"I have not seen any before this year, and I love them dearly," she said, as she began to munch the pungent leaves and fruit with evident relish.

"You got them over in the Ivyhurst pines?" she concluded inquiringly.

"Yes, and—" Shirley began.

"And you met the young lord, and he walked home with you; I saw you," interrupted madame, as she bestowed a searching glance upon her companion's still flushed and animated face.

"That is true," Shirley quietly replied. Then

Then, as she noticed the wondering look in Shirley's eyes, she added, with a comical expression:

"I am sure I don't know what has come over me, but I believe that you are turning me topsyturvy as well as the house."

"But, madame, really—" Shirley began.

"I think there's been enough said on that score," the woman hastily interrupted; then she continued: "Now sit down, and tell me how you happened to run across the young lord."

Shirley saw that she was not offended, as she had at first feared, by her involuntary caress, although she had for some reason been deeply moved by it; and feeling greatly relieved she seated herself and proceeded to give her an account of how she had spent the hours of her absence.

Madame listened attentively, and appeared to be gratified with the attention which her companion had received from the master of Ivyhurst, while she remarked, upon the conclusion of her recital:

"The young lord is considered a great man in St. Sauveur."

"A great man?" repeated Shirley inquiringly.

"Ay, people here think there is no one like him, though I myself am more inclined to think he is something of a fool in a certain way," said madame grimly. "There is no end to his money, and he throws it away upon every beggar whom he meets. He is a graduated physician, too, and spends half of his time about the slums of the town attending the sick who are too poor to pay doctors' fees, while there is no end of flowers and fruit that he raises and sends to his patients and the hospitals in Quebec."

"He is, indeed, a great and a noble man, if that is the way he spends his time and money," Shirley remarked with shining eyes and with a note of reverence in her tones.

"But your fine young lord has not had a remarkably happy life, notwithstanding all his goodness."

Shirley looked up inquiringly.

"He married the handsomest girl in Quebec about six years ago, and thought he had the loveliest wife in the world. His mother and sister were nearly distracted over the match, for they had heard that she was a heartless coquette, and that she was only after the title and the money. But his lordship would not hear a word against her, and there was a great wedding, with no end of show and fol-de-rol. The first year all went well, for the girl became a mother before it was over, then as soon as she was able to get around again she began to show her real character. She neglected her child shamefully, turning him over to the care of a nurse, while she lived in a whirl of gaiety and excitement, and flirted with every fool who admired her pretty face," madame explained.

"It seems very strange that a man like Lord Wallace should have been attracted to such a woman," Shirley musingly observed.

"Humph! love makes fools of the wisest men sometimes, and of women, too, for that matter," retorted madame, with a frown. "Well, one day the nurse was ill," she resumed after a moment of silence, "and my lady was obliged to give up a party and stay at home to care for the child, as both its grandmother and aunt were away, and there was no one else with whom it could be trusted. It was a cold day, and there was a fire in the grate in the nursery. Her ladyship gave the boy some playthings on the floor; then taking a novel stretched herself out on a couch to read and kill time as best she could. She must have fallen asleep, for the next she knew she was startled by the most heart-rending screams from the child, while the smell of burning cloth filled the room. She started to her feet to find the poor little fellow lying in front of the grate, with his feet directly under it, where the red-hot coals were dropping upon them. His clothing was all in flames, and he was, of course, terribly burned before the fire could be extinguished. A physician was called, and everything possible done, but the child's feet were rendered useless by the accident, and he has never walked a step."

"How dreadful!" exclaimed Shirley, with a shiver of pain running over her.

"One would have supposed that the mother would have been cured of all her folly by such a terrible accident to her babe," madame continued, "but she appeared to become even more reckless and giddy. Three months later she eloped with a New York gambler with whom she had been flirting off and on for a long time and some said, even before her marriage. But it was a mercy that Lord Wallace did not have to bear this disgrace for a great while, for news came only a little more than a year afterwards that the woman was dead, and therefore that living trouble was over. Another sorrow awaited him, however, for the Lady Evelyn whom he loved as few brothers love their sisters, was stricken with consumption and died a few months ago. He has his mother left, but you see that good men are not always the happiest," the woman concluded.

"No, perhaps not, in one sense of the word," said Shirley musingly. "Good people often suffer the heaviest sorrows, and yet—"

"And yet what?" questioned madame.

"And yet I cannot believe that Lord Wallace is really unhappy," Shirley thoughtfully answered. "Of course it must be a great trial to him that his son is a cripple, and the loss of dear ones is always a heavy grief, but I am sure that he has an inward consciousness of content that is very comforting to him. And, the fair girl went on, with a little quiver of her sweet lips, 'I believe if he were to die today he would have lived a nobler, more complete, more satisfactory life; that he would step upon a broader, higher plane in another sphere than many another who has lived out the 'three-score and ten' for himself alone.'"

As she concluded she turned a look of reverence, toward the grove of pines where only a few hours before she had met the man of whom she was speaking.

Madame eyed her curiously for a moment, then she abruptly changed the conversation, and the master of Ivyhurst was not referred to again.

It seemed as if strange incidents were destined to crowd thick and fast upon Shirley that day, for, a little later, as she was passing up the stairs on some errand, a servant handed her a card to be given to his mistress.

It bore the name of a woman of whom she had heard Madame speak in no very flattering terms, and she feared she would not prove a very welcome visitor.

Proceeding to her room she gave her the card, and then stood waiting for further instructions.

"Mrs. Sandland!" exclaimed madame with a frown of displeasure. "What brings her here, I should like to know?" Then turning to Shirley she said, with sudden decision: "You can go down and tell her that I am not at home."

Shirley lifted an amazed glance to the woman's face. She had never been asked to take such a message to anyone before.

"But, madame, that would be a falsehood," she gravely remarked.

"It's a polite way of telling people that you

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15.)

CHAPTER XVII.

MADAME'S COMPANION MAKES A NEW ACQUAINTANCE.

A CRY of fear broke from the young girl's lips, but terror so paralyzed her that she could not move hand or foot. Despite her fear blanched face, she made a lovely picture, sitting there beneath the shifting shadows of the plump pines, her golden hair, slightly disarranged and lying in charming confusion on her brow, and with the pretty sailor hat, half-full of the glowing berries in her lap.

At least so thought a certain gentleman, who, following close upon the tracks of his dog, came suddenly upon her, and took in the situation with one appreciative glance.

"Pray do not be alarmed, Miss Livingstone; the dog is perfectly good-natured and will not harm you," he remarked, as he came forward to the mastiff's side and laid his hand upon his head.

He was a tall, fine-looking man of perhaps twenty-eight years.

"You perceive, Miss Livingstone, that I am aware of your identity, even though I am a stranger to you," the gentleman smilingly remarked. "News travels rapidly in St. Sauveur, and you had not been in the place many days before I learned that Madame Marton had secured a New York young lady as her companion. Allow me," he continued, removing his hat and extending his hand, as Shirley attempted to regain her feet. Then he added, with a humorous twinkle in his fine eyes, as he glanced at his dog: "And now permit me to introduce you to his majesty, Nero, who, although far from being as cruel and bloodthirsty as the unprincipled man whose name he bears, alarmed you so a moment ago. While, as for Nero's master, he has the honor to be Madame Marton's nearest neighbor, and is known as Nell Wallace, of Ivyhurst."

Shirley opened wide her lovely eyes, at this information, and a delicate flush suffused her face as she thus realized that she had wandered beyond the boundaries of madame's estate, and was trespassing upon the possessions of Lord Nell Wallace, the young nobleman previously referred to, and whose praises were the theme of every tongue.

A slight smile curved her lips as she bowed a graceful acknowledgment of this introduction. Then she replied, with charming frankness:

"I trust you will pardon me, Lord Wallace; I was not aware that I was poaching on your grounds, although Nero appears to have recognized the fact and tried to warn me off. What a fine fellow he is!" she concluded, as her fear all gone, she leaned forward and gently patted the massive head of the noble creature, who, instantly recognizing a friend, lifted his great brown eyes confidently to her face and wagged his tail approvingly.

"Pray do not apply such an odious term to the accident of your presence here," he gallantly returned. "And if Nero gave you the impression that he regarded you in the light of a poacher, I am sure he is trying his best to apologize for it now," he concluded, as the dog approached nearer to her and rubbed his head caressingly against her.

"Nero, you are a nice fellow," said Shirley, in an alluring tone; whereupon the mastiff affectionately licked the rosy palm of the hand that was caressing him in grateful appreciation of the compliment.

"It is evident that you are fond of dogs, and my favorite appears to have discovered the fact also," the young man remarked with a smile.

"Indeed I am," returned Shirley, heartily; "and Nero is a king of his kind. But how could you happen to so misname him? He seems like the kindest-hearted dog in the world."

"And so he is," her companion answered, "although he knows his place well enough not to bear being imposed upon; I had nothing to do, however, with naming him; he was given to me by the father of a dear friend who died, consequently he had received his companion before I had him. But, apropos of poaching, Miss Livingstone, have you seen Ivyhurst yet?"

"Only from a distance, as madame and I have driven by," Shirley replied.

"Would you like a nearer view of it?—may I have the pleasure of showing you my home, which has been in the family ever since the country was first settled?" Nell Wallace asked, with a glow of pride on his face and an eager note in his voice.

"You are very kind, and I shall be delighted, for I have heard a great deal about the beauties of Ivyhurst," she smilingly returned.

"Then come with me, please; there is an opening in the wood, a little way from here, where we may have a fine view," and the young man turned back in the direction from which he had come, walking beside Shirley and talking in an affable, entertaining way that was one of his many fascinating characteristics.

A walk of five minutes brought them to the opening that Lord Wallace had mentioned, and there, spread out before her admiring eyes was the grandest place that Shirley had ever seen.



"Pray do not be alarmed, Miss Livingstone;"



"Why did you do that? Nobody has kissed me before for more than forty years"



"She is a pretty lady, papa."



"Ahem! I guess you'll do."

stance, seem almost like animated faces to me; an orchid like a thing of life and feeling; but I am afraid that sounds sentimental to you," she concluded flushing.

"Not at all," her companion responded, "and," he added, "you will be amused when I tell you that my gardener talks to his plants exactly as if they were children. Some day you must come to Ivyhurst, Miss Livingstone, with Madame Marton, and I will show you my conservatories."

"Thank you," Shirley said; "that will be a great treat, and no doubt madame will be glad to accept the invitation; although," she concluded with a smile of amusement dimpling her cheeks, "she cannot be said to be very fond of flowers."

Her companion laughed out heartily at the observation.

"No, madame is too practical to spend her time over anything that cannot be turned into money," he said; then added: "Now I will take you back to her grounds if you like."

"Pray do not trouble yourself to that extent," the fair girl replied, "for I am sure I can find the way by myself."

"I have no doubt that you could do so," Nell smilingly answered; "but if you will allow me I shall take pleasure in accompanying you, while," he added, with a roguish glance from her to the dog, who was trotting close beside her, "I begin to fear that you have supplanted me in Nero's affections, and I may find it no easy matter to separate you."

"Yes," said Shirley, "I think that Nero and I will always be friends after this; will we not, doggie?"

"And Nero's master would be glad to be included in that arrangement also," Lord Wallace remarked, looking down upon the fair face beside him with a glance of earnest appeal.

Shirley flushed with mingled pleasure and confusion.

"Thank you," was all the reply she made, but the quiet sincerity of it assured him that she would be a very true friend to whomsoever he might favor with her regard.

They wandered slowly back toward madame's

she added, with eager enthusiasm: "I have just come from my room, dear madame, and I want to thank you for your goodness; the rug is lovely, and—"

"Well, if I must consent to have the house turned upside down I want things put to their right uses," the woman hastily interposed, though there was a satisfied gleam in her eyes which belied the sharpness of her tongue and betrayed that she was pleased with Shirley's delight.

"Indian shawls make rather expensive carpets, and I could not countenance any such extravagance," she concluded with well assumed austerity.

Shirley bent down until her lovely, happy eyes were on a level with madame's.

"Dear Madame Marton, I am not going to be cheated out of my thanks," she said, half-laughing, half-crying. "You have done a lovely thing, and I must tell you how happy I am over it. I am going to confess, too, that I thought you were very much offended with me when you went off by yourself this afternoon, but now I know that it was only because you wished to give me this delightful surprise. Thank you a thousand times." And before the woman suspected her intention the fair girl leaned forward and imprinted a grateful kiss on her withered cheek.

Instantly madame clasped her hand over the spot, while she flushed crimson, and her small black eyes seemed to emit sparks of fire.

"Why did you do that?" she sharply demanded. "Nobody has kissed me before for more than forty years."

"Forgive me, madame, if I have offended you," pleaded Shirley, her own face now a scarlet flame, her voice full of pained regret, "but I was so glad, so happy, so grateful, I could not help it."

Madame gazed at her curiously for a moment; then she said, in a softened tone:

"Child, I believe you, and there's no harm done; only I have been taken in so many times by the pretensions of people. I am glad if you like the rug, and we'll have some more of them down-stairs; but you'll have to go with me to help me pick them out."



This Department is conducted solely for the use of Comfort sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to Comfort subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, assistance, encouragement or sympathy.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to print letters requesting patterns, quilt pieces, etc., for the purpose of, or with the expectation of receiving the equivalent in return, for this is not an exchange column.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting donations of money. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to Comfort Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and enclose on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to Mrs. WHEELER WILKINSON, Care COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.



Picture Copyright by Straithmore

MRS. WOODROW WILSON

On another page of this number we have COMFORT's fine article on the inauguration of President-elect Wilson, and the story of Mr. Wilson's special request that the famous inaugural ball be omitted, because he desired the inaugural ceremonies to be of a simple, dignified nature, devoid of the extravagance which has been a growing feature in recent years.

What will especially interest you sisters, is the fact that before it had been decided to dispense with the inaugural ball, Mrs. Wilson had displayed her good taste by absolutely forbidding the performance of any of the new dances of questionable propriety indulged in at many social functions in high life, but which have received criticism and even severe censure by the public and the press.

Mr. Wilson is not a rich man, and purposes as President to set an example of living within his means in rebuke of the alarming extravagance which is becoming so prevalent in this country. In this he will be ably seconded by Mrs. Wilson whose domestic talents are such as need not a display of pomp to sustain the dignity of the presidential household.

Heading COMFORT's Cooking Department, this month, is a picture of Mrs. Wilson in the act of practicing the culinary art in which she is an adept.

I can but compare Mrs. Wilson with the popular queen of Italy, so devoted is she to her husband and family; so democratic in her ideas and conduct.

COMFORT's fourth Household Number is one of great interest to the thrifty housewife, who is always in quest of knowledge and likes to know what other women are doing.

Wordsworth defines the housewife thus: "She was a woman of a stirring life, whose heart was in her house; two wheels she had, the large for spinning wool, the small for flax; and if one wheel had rest, it was because the other was at work."

While no longer in use, we love to think of the old picturesque spinning-wheel, woman's emblem of industry. To peruse this March COMFORT is to realize the progress made in housekeeping even since the early days of COMFORT.

I especially call attention to the wide range of kitchen helps, covering as they do, the many details which center around this all-important part of the house. The laundry helps are practical and will prove useful in any home.—Ed.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS: Perhaps I am stepping on dangerous ground when I express my views on a certain subject, but I have been sitting quietly in the corner for several years, taking in all the good letters, so I thought I must offer my mite.

A short time before Christmas I had an opportunity to visit a hospital and an orphanage where I saw over two hundred little children, ranging in ages from a few weeks to fourteen or fifteen years. How my heart did ache for those poor little ones, looking at us so wistfully when we inquired whether they would have Christmas there: I mean, whether they might all expect some little token in memory of the One who was born in a manger, and when we learned it would be a disappointment to many, I concluded that so far as it was in my power, some of those children should be remembered next year, and by me; that I would go to the stores now, directly after the holidays,

when the toys that are left over can be purchased cheap, especially dolls for girls, and books or balls for boys, then when I have any spare time, and we all have that, no matter how busy we are, dress those little dolls, and I am to remember how real buttons on the clothes so the little mothers can dress and undress them. Then when next Christmas time comes around I shall feel a whole lot better than to have spent hour after hour at the (now here I may step on someone's toes) card table. Yes! sisters I mean that, for isn't it crying shame so many of us only our young women, but also, old gray-headed mothers who at least should know better and set the others an example, will sit hours at a time at the card table and work themselves almost into a frenzy, to win some point. In many a home the children are left by themselves or sent to bother some good-natured neighbor, while the mother is seemingly enjoying herself. Dear sisters, if any of you belong to that class, do as I intend to do, spend your time on making some poor orphan, or some little sick child happy and surely you will be happier for it; or, offer to help some poor mother with her sewing one half day a week, if no more.

You could still meet same as when playing cards; only, please do something that is worth while, something you need not be ashamed of when the time comes for us all to give an account of ourselves. I wish we might hear some other sisters' opinion on this all-important subject.

Can any of the sisters tell me through COMFORT how to remove peach stain from an embroidered white waist? I would be very thankful for same.

Mrs. A. C. SHEPHERD, E. Toledo, R. R. 1, Ohio.

Mrs. Shepherd, I am heartily in accord with your aversion to women spending so much time at the card table. There is nothing that wears out a fine face like the vigils of the card-table, and those cutting passions which naturally attend them. Hollow eyes, haggard looks, and pale complexions are the natural indications of a female gambler. Her morning sleeps are not able to repay her midnight watchings.

And yet, this is but a small part of the damage wrought by the game habit, for habit it becomes, and as a rule, with women at least, it is drifted into unintentionally.

As COMFORT Sisters' Corner stands for the Home and Home-Maker, we must remonstrate against anything that threatens unrest or neglect, as anything will, be it cards or what not, that so involves time and attention. I will ask this simple, direct question: What right has a mother of school children to take even one afternoon out of six in which to play cards? A summing up of the actual cost of such a habit makes my question easily answered. First, there is the actual time spent in playing, which I regret to say consumes not one but several afternoons and evenings with many who can ill afford it. Second, the extra attention one naturally gives to dress when appearing before other women. Third, the cost of refreshments, for each must do their share of entertaining. Fourth, the indisputable neglect of home interests. Afternoon games last well toward the night meal hour, and haste and hurry are likely to mark this occasion; and of the evening game, who puts the little ones to bed and listens to the good night prayer? And as for the "good-natured neighbor" caring for the children after school hours, I wish such were numerous enough to care for them all, for many a child roams to forbidden districts while "Mother seemingly enjoys herself."

You sisters who live in places where this card mania does not exist, have no idea how fast its grip is, but those who do know, will agree that I have drawn a very mild picture of this evil. Has not the woman, who, instead of doing her own sewing hires it done, or buys ready-made at a greater cost; who buys cooked food and thereby not only pays more but feeds her family to substitutes and adulterations in order to gain time to waste at cards something to do with the high cost of living? And is not this much discussed subject just about the same age as this very prevalent card habit?

DEAR SISTERS: I call to present some helps and ask a favor while I try to wait for the arrival of my January COMFORT. The household of our large farm homestead consists of my seventy-six-year-old father (who is nearing the end of Bright's disease), one of the best of mothers, my twin sister and myself, with the other brother and sisters have married and flown from the old roof-tree into homes of their own.

Mrs. Fannie P. Moore. I make natural looking flowers too, for decorating, etc., of white tissue paper and of starched white linen. I also make roses, lilies, hyacinths, etc. I use yellow for stamens; have macilage and brush to put petals on wire stems, then finish with green calyxes, leaves and stems. Mamma can make beautiful wax flowers, and we have a wreath of flowers made of hair and zephyr.

I desire to know how to weave hair switches without a backbone stem as I do not know how to weave the other way.

Varnished reels and flax spinning wheels decorated with ribbon make interesting relic ornaments for parlors.

A yard of thirty-six inch ducking or other plain colored wash good make inexpensive window shades when tacked on old window shade rollers. Take an inch hem in either side and run stick in bottom.

Make vases of fancy glass bottles by wetting inside of bottle and lining with flowers cut from seed catalogues and magazines, using a wire to place and make them adhere to the wet bottle; then carefully fill bottle with salt.

Take the stiff back of writing tablets, paste the blotter on it, then in center of that paste a picture and bind edges with passepartout if desired.

Jonest or life-ever-lasting blossoms make as good filling for cushions as feathers.

To make the "bed and the heels" when preparing a meal, washing dishes and setting the table, place victuals, dishes, etc., on a tray, thus saving many trips to and from dining-room and kitchen.

To make a candle fit any candlestick, soften candle end by dipping in hot water; if too large, squeeze it in candlestick; if too small the wax will spread and hold the candle up.

Before using new tin ware, grease it, put in oven and heat and it will never rust.

Soap added to starch will prevent sticking to the iron and give a gloss.

When annealing, turn can upside down to allow grease to get cold at the top of can and it will not be necessary to fill cans up with grease after meat is filled in.

To ornament a jug, cover with putty and while still soft, stick on shells, toys or any souvenir, and then use gilt and silver bronze.

MISS ELLA V. SMITH, Decatur, R. R. 4, Tenn.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

As it is not a very long time since I came to this country and never had any English lessons, will you please excuse my spelling?

I came here five years ago from Zurich, Switzerland, and you can believe me, I had some experiences, but all for my good.

I am twenty-seven years old and am married four years to one of the best Godfrey's. We have two sweet little girls, Ruth three years and Lydia two months old. My husband is a machinist, and he is a Christian in every way, so I don't have to tell you what he does and doesn't. We are German Baptists and started a little mission and Sunday School in our house, and every Sunday a preacher comes from Philadelphia. But we do so wish that we could have a chapel, so if one of you dear COMFORT readers does not know what to do with some million dollars, and would tell us to come and get it, we would not mind to spend a carfare or two.

I see that there are so many opinions about voting, but I think we all agree that it is a shame for men that women have to vote. If every man would do his duty, it would not be necessary to let their wives go to the polls.

I would like to hear from some of the sisters. Is someone among the readers also from Switzerland? I like America very much, but can never forget what a glorious spot Switzerland is, as if God had left us a little piece from Eden.

With my best wishes to you all, I am your true COMFORT sister.

KLARA L. HUBER, 195 Division St., Trenton, N. Y.

My Dear Mrs. WILKINSON:

Dear COMFORT for January came yesterday and as usual I devoured the Sisters' Corner at once with much interest and pleasure. I do love to read the sisters' letters, and gleam much good help and sunshine from them.

Now for the lady who asks for ways of raising money for the church. I will tell her of a little country church I know of that had a debt to be paid, and no funds. So each one asked every friend they had in town or out to give them a handkerchief of some



factory is devoted to its right production. Don't be misled by imitations on a garment so important.

Rubens Shirts For Infants

Sizes for any age from birth. Made in cotton, wool and silk. Also in merino (half wool). Also in silk and wool. Prices run from 25 cents up.

Sold by dry-goods stores, or sold direct where dealers can't supply. Ask us for pictures, sizes and prices.

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Fifteen Million Babies

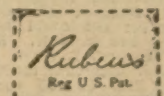
Probably fifteen million babies have enjoyed this ideal infant shirt.

Those babies were kept snug and warm. Their shirts were comfortable. Coughs and colds were warded off with them.

They had this double thickness over chest and abdomen. No open laps, no buttons in the shirts they wore.

You'll clothe your babies like those millions when you know this Rubens shirt.

Ask for Rubens Shirts, and be sure that this label appears on the front. This shirt is our invention, and this whole



description, one or more as they could, and if they did not wish to send a handkerchief, send a sum of money, what they could spare from a nickel to a dollar. When the handkerchiefs began to arrive by mail, the Aid Society met and began to manufacture all kinds of fancy articles cut from them; bags, aprons, bureau scarfs, splashes, stand covers, handkerchief cases, photo holders, etc., etc. Then each lady agreed to furnish a box of lunch for two persons, these boxes were fixed up fancy and dainty outside as well as in, and each lady placed a slip of paper inside the box on top of the lunch napkin with her own name on it, and the boxes were then tied up with a pretty colored baby ribbon or cord. These were sold at auction to the gentleman who shared the contents with the lady whose name he found inside, though he did not know whose box he was buying till he opened it. This creates lots of fun too, and the boxes being from fifty cents to a dollar apiece, where the gentlemen enter into the spirit of the thing and bid against each other as they would at any auction for some coveted article. After supper the fancy things were sold and a short entertainment given. They cleared two hundred dollars, which was good for so small a church.

Another way I have seen done is to get up some special supper with a social time afterward, with music, games, etc., etc. When supper-time approaches have some long curtains hung up across some corner or space just high enough so one can't look over it and low enough so anyone behind it will only show the feet. The ladies all retire behind this curtain (except of course those who are to wait upon the tables) and stand close enough to the curtain so their feet will peep out beneath it. The gents are to stand at least five or six feet away from the curtain and select some lady by her feet, whom he will take to supper. This causes great amusement and it is comical to see how the couples will pair off too. I forgot to say a nickel or a dime was charged for a chance to choose, thus swelling the supper receipts.

May God bless and richly reward you Mrs. Wilkinson for the good work you are doing, and prosper you abundantly is the prayer of one of your ardent admirers.

Mrs. MAY WYATT, 3 White St., Westfield, Mass.

Mrs. Wyatt. The handkerchief articles which you describe sound very attractive and I am sure would sell in any community. The Dutch sweeping caps, and book covers made to keep a book clean while being read are also very salable. Quite a variety of neckwear is also possible from handkerchiefs, including top collars, Dutch collars (with square corners) and cuffs and jabots.

The second entertainment with the drawing of supper partners by their feet is extremely amusing. This is a new idea to me and I should judge if the women banded together they might make it quite interesting for the choosers.

You are very kind to me Mrs. Wyatt, and such wishes as yours bring golden moments into my life.—Ed.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

My mail box has been overflowing, and I am still answering all letters having enclosed stamp. Unfortunately, some of the replies to the letters in September COMFORT were sent through mistake to the dead letter office, or returned to the writer instead of being forwarded. However the moving day is over, and we are thoroughly settled, and established, and I am willing to still write and answer all questions.

Dear sisters, how gratified it makes me feel to know of the love and sympathy that exists throughout the world. I have had no very many letters from sisters interested in my little girl, and they were all pleasantly read and appreciated. I so much wanted to send a personal reply to all, but there were so very many it would hardly be possible. To all who have written, I am more than thankful and assure you, one and all, that it is indeed a good old world after all.

To those who especially wanted me to write again to COMFORT, I will answer in a general way most of the questions that were asked me that will be interesting for all to know about our beautiful Imperial Valley.

Having lived in California for twenty-eight years, I am very familiar with climatic conditions, and values, our markets, the demand for labor, and the different industries. We have been in touch with people in the valley since it first opened, and will say that while we can boast of almost every day being a sunny one, the climate can be improved, but as it is, it suits us very well. We have lived in camp life four months and suffered neither with heat nor cold. We have had some wind that was uncomfortable, but when these unpleasant things come, I think we should be so thankful to be settled where we can always raise from one to three crops per year and get good prices.

Sisters, do you know there are always thorns among the roses, always rocks among the pebbles, always sorrows among the joys. Just so with our Imperial Valley; but I know of no place that offers better opportunities for investment, or to those desiring to work and get a start in life. Land is steadily increasing in value. Anyone desiring to work can get good wages, and women are in great demand. We have a fine market for what we raise and the cost of living is only a little higher than in Los Angeles.

Cows are from forty to one hundred and twenty-five dollars per head. Horses from fifty to one hundred and fifty dollars per head. There is lots of land to rent and see no reason why people with energy, ambition and strength, could not do well. We do not depend on rain; our water is all brought in the valley through canals from the Colorado river. Our water system is said to be the cheapest irrigating system in the U. S. Water stock costs from ten dollars to fifteen dollars per share per acre.

You are required to have thirty-two shares for every forty acres of land. It will then cost you about three dollars per acre per year to irrigate.

El Centro is our county seat and business is fine there. The price of land is diversified; that water stocked close to town, and improved, sells for three hundred dollars per acre. There is some relinquishment that are rough, and far out, that can be had as cheap as fifteen dollars per acre.

I am glad to be of service to all and thank you again for your love and sympathy. Best success to all.

Mrs. DELLA D. MILLER, Seeley, Cal.

DEAR MAMAM:

I hope I can hereby give Mrs. D. D. Miller, Seeley, Imperial Co., Cal., some advice.

In the December COMFORT Mrs. Miller writes about her daughter having so much trouble with her eyes. I have six children, and two of them have also had very sore eyes. I tried all kinds of medicine and doctored for years, and nothing seemed to help them. Finally an old lady friend of mine told me about

pure cod liver oil (not the emulsion), which I tried. My two children took this, one desert spoonful in morning and at bedtime, for a couple of winters (winter only) and this helped them, in fact cured their eyes. They both wear glasses now but the soreness has entirely disappeared.

Have been very busy or would have written sooner. Enjoy COMFORT very much.

Mrs. F. C. SANGLE, 742 Townsend Ave., Detroit, Mich.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

Having read a sister's letter from Pina, Ariz., just wish to say I thank God the whole world does not belong to the Latter Day Saints' church. I have lived here long enough to know something about that faith and doings. One woman who was converted in the East, and came to Salt Lake City, told me that the religion as preached by the missionaries in other states was entirely different from what is practiced here in Salt Lake City. She said she had had enough Mormonism to last the rest of her life. She went back to her old home and also old religion.

No one living here is ever converted to the church. It is always some poor misguided person from some other country, or state.

Inclosed is a clipping from Salt Lake Herald Republican daily paper which will prove that even in Zion there are destitute people. Members of the Salvation Army are busy all the time relieving the suffering poor. Gentiles living here think less of that religion the longer they live here. I could fill all pages with things I have learned from reliable sources but this will suffice to tell there are as many poor and needy here in Zion as in any other town. Yours sincerely,

Mrs. G. L. HAWKERST, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Sisters. The clipping referred to by Mrs. Hawkerst reads as follows:

"Mrs. Walker, a widow of 1219 Indiana avenue, the mother of three small children, is reported in destitute circumstances and suffering severely from the cold, being without fuel. Neighbors have asked that Mrs. Walker be furnished with coal and with a stove, the one she is now using being battered and old and practically useless. One of the children is just recovering from pneumonia."

Mrs. Hawkerst. You followed just the right course in presenting your side of the charity question as seen by you. Surely, if the Salvation Army is active in Salt Lake City, there are suffering poor; and right here let me add a word in praise of this great organization, the Salvation Army. Its work is among the poor, the suffering and the fallen; its interests are for all humanity; men, women and children, and among its captains are found fine men and women who be-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7.)

BILLIARDS AT HOME

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On their own roots, all will bloom THIS SUMMER

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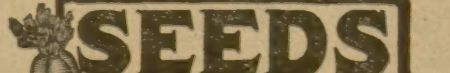
Etelle de France, Deep Crimson
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Radish, 17 Varieties, worth 15c; Lettuce, 12 kinds, worth 15c; Tomatoes, 11 the finest, worth 25c; Turnip, 7 splendid, worth 10c; Onion, 8 best varieties, worth 15c; 10 Spring Flowering Bulbs, worth 25c—65 varieties in all; worth \$1.00.

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H.W. BUCKBEE

Rockford Seed Farms, Rockford, Ill.

Creatures of Destiny; or, Where Love Leads

By Charles Garvice

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SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Laurence Harding, a handsome fisher lad of sixteen, living in the village of Ravensford, is questioned by an old wizen-faced man, a gypsy, as to Raven Castle, and its owner, Lady Marie. Laurence, knowing the short cuts gains the castle terrace long before the man, who gives the name of Snapper, reaches it. In the dining-room of the castle, Mr. Wharton, the family lawyer, is closeted with Mr. Sherborne, the legal adviser of the Belmaynes and Mr. Wharton relates the romance of the two families. The late earl, Lady Marie's father, was the sweetheart and the late Marchioness of Belmayne. There is a separation and the earl marries Lady Normandyke and his first love becomes the wife of the Marquis of Belmayne and the mother of Mr. Sherborne's client, Lord Belmayne. Still loving each other they make an engagement between their children. Lady Marie, now a beautiful girl of twelve, and Lord Philip Belmayne, who suffers from a lameness scarcely perceptible. Going on the terrace Mr. Sherborne looks over the battlement and sees a young girl, her hair fastened by a diamond clasp. Leaning over the parapet she could nearly reach Laurence Harding, who lies in wait. He knows the gypsy, calling himself Snapper is there. He detects him swoop upon something, Laurence throws himself over the wall and clamping him on the throat demands what he has stolen. There is a flash of steel and Laurence feels a sting on his arm. Throwing the man to the ground Laurence recovers the diamond clasp. He releases his hold and the Snapper disappears. Lady Marie discovers the loss of the clasp and Mr. Wharton shaking the land demands it. Yellow, the butler, sees that Larry is out and the knife is found. Giving the clasp to Lady Marie, Larry makes his escape and enters Belmayne Park where he meets the young marquis, Lord Belmayne. Going home he tells the story to Reuben Payne, who recalls the name, Miriam, of a young gypsy girl, who lived at one of the Hall lodges and married John Gray, a sailor. Lady Marie goes fishing with Larry, returning to the shore they see a strange boat, two at the oars, and the third Larry recognizes as the Snapper. Turning to answer the questions of one something is thrown over his eyes, his arms pinioned and he is flung into a boat. Nine years later Lady Marie, returning from London meets Reuben Payne. Inquiring for Larry he gives the only letter ever received and she recalls her promise to marry him. Lady Merston welcomes her home and leaves it for Mr. Wharton to tell why she is glad she is heart free. For the sake of Ravensford and Belmayne Lady Marie decides to marry Philip. On this night there is a shipwreck on the coast of Vancouver. A young man with Larry's face and eyes, answering to the name of Darnley, is saved with Spots, a passenger, who claims a fortune awaits them on that shore. A three days' march and they find a rich ruby mine. Lady Marie is conscious that she does not love Philip as she should. Invitations are sent out for a state dinner, after which Lord Belmayne entertains the guests with music on the violin, surprising the older ones who cannot remember any of the Belmaynes displaying much musical talent. Leaving his violin he returns to the drawing-room and finds Lady Marie in tears. Seeking solace from his violin, as he walks along, his memory fails him and he begins to improvise, when he hears a voice, "Wrong, wrong!" He nearly stumbles over a man who admits he is homeless. Taking the violin from Philip he plays the sonata correctly and Philip stands spellbound. The man admits he is a musician by birth, as is Philip, that his name is Gideon Flack, that he is a gypsy, a man of moods playing when and where he likes and best with only trees and birds for company. It describes Philip's feelings. Spots, recovering from a severe illness, tells Larry the romance of earlier years, his love for a beautiful gypsy girl, Miriam by name, who gives her heart to and marries a fair-haired sailor. He is drowned in the English Channel, leaving a child resembling the mother. Spots and Larry are joined by Linda, Hepburn and her father, who is trading and tramping to save his daughter's life. To protect the location of the mine Spots offers Hepburn a sixth share in it. Linda manages the housekeeping, preparing the food that Larry likes best. She sprains her ankle and Larry is obliged to take her home. An attempt is made to rob Lady Marie of a diamond bracelet. Meeting the eyes of the man, defeating the thief, she sees he is not unlike Larry. Realizing the impossibility for her to marry Philip she leaves a letter for him and Lady Merston, and with her maid goes to Normandyke. Spots sees Linda's growing fondness for Larry, and his indifference to her. To save the girl's suffering Spots proposes that one of them go to London and dispose of the rubies. They decide upon Larry. Failing to sell them in London he goes to Rouen where he is snatched and robbed of his wealth. A stranger comes to his aid, who is shot in the leg. Larry takes the man to his hotel and calls a doctor. He recognizes his rescuer as Lord Belmayne. Philip knows Larry's voice, and to Larry Philip tells his sad story and implores him to find and bring Lady Marie to him. Larry goes to Normandyke. Strolling along he hears the sound of a horse's step and detects a limp. The rider requests Larry to see what is the matter. The recognition is mutual, Lady Marie and Larry meet.

CHAPTER XIX. AT CROSS-PURPOSES.

FOR a moment, even when he had heard her voice, Larry thought that he was dreaming; that the blow on his head was but now taking full effect; then he realized that she was indeed before him, within reach of his hand; that she had but to speak for him to hear the voice that had haunted the days and nights of all the weary dragging years; and his heart leaped and made him speechless.

"It is you—is it not?" she asked at last, woman-like the first to speak.

"Yes; it's I," he said, and the storm of emotion rocked him so that he had to hold the bridge tightly, as if to keep himself steady on his feet. "Yes, it's I, Larry, Lady Marie. But you? You here?" He looked round, as if he expected the valley to melt away, indeed, like an enchanted scene. "It is—wonderful!"

"Is it not?" she said. The color had come back to her face, and was staying there, a delicate rose flush on the clear ivory; and her eyes, stars of night, were resting on him, with surprise still in their velvety depths; and was there something more than surprise—pleasure?

"It is a wonderful meeting, as you say. You are traveling; staying here?"

"At the inn," he replied, with a slight jerk of his shoulder, the jerk with which he used to sign to her to steer. "I have only just arrived. If you had passed by an hour—ten minutes—ago, I should have missed you! How well you are looking!" he added; and his eyes, fixed on her face, continued mutely: "And how beautiful!"

"Yes? But you, Larry, you look pale and—yes, tired."

Larry dropped his eyes for an instant.

"I've been traveling a great deal," he said. "Ah, you must tell me all about it—everything!" she said, with an eagerness which pierced through the mask of calmness with which she tried to cover it.

He continued to gaze at her with wonder, and as if he expected her to vanish like a wraith. At last he said:

"You are staying here, Lady Marie?"

She looked at him with a momentary surprise; then she replied very gravely:

"Yes; I am staying here."

"On a visit," she repeated, her eyes downcast for a moment, then raised to his with calm serenity.

"It's a beautiful place," he said. "It reminds me of—Ravenford."

"It's not unlike," she admitted.

"But I beg your pardon," he exclaimed. "I was forgetting your horse! If you will dismount

He made as if to help her, but she slipped from the saddle quickly and deftly, and went to the horse's head. Larry soon found the cause of the trouble.

"Off hind shoe off," he said, in his old short way.

"There is a blacksmith's forge near the inn," she said.

"I'll take it—," he said; but with a quick movement, as if she had suddenly remembered something, she stopped him.

"No; I will take it. Will you wait here?"

Larry, wondering a little at her refusal to permit him to go with the horse, seated himself obediently on the mossy wall of the little bridge that spanned the musical brook.

His headache had gone; there was no room for it, for his mind was full of wonder and amazement, of the shock of her presence; her voice mingled with that of the stream; the midges and gnats buzzed her name.

She came back presently and seated herself beside him. She was calm and serene as of old, but a smile lurked in the sweet curve of her lips, and in the depths of her dark, velvety eyes.

"Now, Larry," she said, as one who has only to ask to receive, to order to be obeyed. "Tell me your adventures. Have you seen Reuben—been to Ravenford?"

Larry shook his head.

"No; the reason's part of my story. But I shall bore you, Lady Marie."

She had been watching him; scanning his face and figure without appearing to look at him, in the way which is born to women, and no man can hope to acquire; while Larry was gazing at her openly. They were eloquent eyes of his, and, though he did not guess it, they were setting her heart a-beating with a strange sensation which puzzled and annoyed her.

Larry, after a pause, tried to begin the history of the years that had passed since they had parted—shall one say were torn apart—and though he thought he made a terrible mess of the recital, told his story very well. There were, of course, sundry omissions; for instance, he forgot to mention Linda.

"And so you have found that fortune, after all?" she said, with a smile.

"Yes; but I've lost it; a part of it," said Larry ruefully. "I—," he paused. He had been forbidden by the marquis to speak of his share in the unfortunate business. "I was robbed the other day of the rubies I was bringing over to sell. So that I'm a poor man again—until I've gone back to the mine and dug up some more."



"You must go back?" She asked the question in a tone of polite interest, but she looked straight in front of her as she put it. "And have you no clue? Do you think you will not recover your property?"

"No," he said with a shake of his head. "I'm afraid not."

"And you were in London some little time ago?" she asked, after a pause. "Did you happen to be in Piccadilly one night and save a lady's bracelet?"

"Then it was you!" he exclaimed, with a flush of pleasure.

She nodded, and there was a touch of color in her face also; but her eyes were downcast.

"Yes; strange, wasn't it? I'm glad I've got an opportunity of thanking you. Which I do."

"That's all right," said Larry, with the awkwardness of the man who is being thanked.

"Singular," said Marie. "That was the second time you came to my rescue. Do you remember that night on the castle terrace; my diamond clasp, Larry?"

"Yes, I remember," he responded, in a very low voice. "I remember—everything; I have an excellent memory, Lady Marie."

"Yes," she remarked cheerfully. "You always had. Mine isn't a particularly bad one," she added. "I have often thought of our outings in the boat. You were very kind to a little girl—a very rude and troublesome little girl, I'm afraid!"

"Not at all!" said Larry; and the response did not sound banal, strange to say.

"You were wonderfully good and patient, I remember," said Lady Marie. "I—I think I missed you very much when you had gone. What a long time ago it was!"

"Yes," he said, looking at her musingly. "It has seemed ages. And yet now—now that we are sitting here, it seems only the other day—"

There was a pause. They were both traveling back to the old days, boy and girl again once

more. And all the time she was watching him without appearing to do so; and she noticed how straight and strong he had grown; and more, how—she hated the word, but what is there to put in place of it?—how gentlemanly. There had always been an air of gentility about Larry; it was more obvious now. He carried himself well; his well-shaped head was set on as it should have been; his arms were not a nuisance and encumbrance to him, and he was graceful and self-possessed. A man, she thought, every inch of him; and a man who might easily be mistaken for one of her own class.

And Larry, still looking at her openly, noticed how perfectly the beautiful girl had grown into the lovely woman; with what indisputable grace and ease every movement, every gesture was instinct. The pride, the undying, unconquerable pride, was there still, and revealed itself in the curve of her lip, the slow flash of the dark eyes, the poise of the small, dainty head; but her beauty, her tender grace masked her hauteur, as a stone statue is masked and beautified by the flowers that have grown over it.

Little knowing that she saw him and felt the admiration and worship of his whole being, he sat and adored her, as a devotee adores his patron saint.

Presently they fell to talking again, and Lady Marie told him some of the village news—but not one word of Philip, the Marquis of Belmayne; not one word; there was plenty of Reuben, and the mill, the servants of the castle and the lodge, the fishing, and the shooting, but nothing, not a single reference to Philip.

And Larry did not mention him; for a good reason—had not the marquis bidden him be silent and cautious?

And the minutes glided by unreckoned by these two, Larry's heart was surging with happiness; and over Marie's restless, dissatisfied spirit a sweet and soothing calm was stealing, as the sound of the angelus bell steals over the sunset plains and sings all unhappy longing to rest.

At last there came from Marie's lips the question that had risen there several times since the meeting.

"But, Larry, you haven't told me why you are here. What brings you to Ruelgoat?" she said, turning to him with a smile.

"Is that what this village is called? Ah, yes! Well, I'm only stopping the night here. I am going to a place called Normandyke."

She did not start; but she turned her face away from him, and looked straight before her.

"Oh! Normandyke? Why, Normandyke?"

"I want to see someone there. Do you know it?"

"Yes; I know it. I am staying there," said Marie quite steadily, quite in a natural way.

"Oh, an ordinary sort of person," she said indifferently.

"Young?"

"Yes; oh, yes. About my age."

"Pretty?" he asked.

Lady Marie was picking at a maidenhair fern which grew in a cranny among the moss that covered the bridge wall; and she shrugged her shoulders indifferently.

"Yes; I have heard people call her pretty," she said critically. "Oh, yes, I should say that she is not bad-looking, at any rate."

Larry nodded.

"And a nice sort of a woman—girl, generally?"

"Yes," assented Marie. "Yes, she is supposed to be rather nice. Of course, I'm not an impartial judge; you see, she is a great friend of mine, and I view her with a favorable eye."

"Of course," he said. "She must be all right, or she wouldn't be a friend of yours, Lady Marie."

Lady Marie laughed gayly.

"Since when have you learned to pay compliments, Larry?" she demanded. "You were not too free with them, I remember, at Ravenford. You used to bully me dreadfully."

"You said just now that I was kind and good to you," he reminded her.

She colored.

"So you were. But you will see my friend, the Countess of Normandyke, for yourself presently, Larry."

"I hope so," he said. "But it's no use my tramping to Normandyke if she is not there."

"Certainly not; it's a long way," assented Marie promptly. "You had better stay at the inn until she returns. You will be very comfortable."

"A pause. Do you know, Larry, I am very curious to know the nature of your business with my friend, the countess?" she said, with a grave smile.

Larry looked before him with thoughtful eyes. It was hard to refuse this lovely creature, this perfected version of his dear, girlish Lady Marie anything, but—He shook his head, as she remembered vividly, he had shaken it at some impossible request of hers in the old days.

"Sorry; can't tell you," he said. "Not my business. Other man would object."

She pretended to look offended, and Larry's eyes grew wistful and reproachful on the instant.

"I should think my horse is shod," she said, with her old manner. "Will you see, please."

Larry dropped off the bridge and went to the forge. The horse was shod, and the smith gave it to him with a low obeisance and a courteous apology for the length of time the operation had taken.

"Oh, has it been long?" said Larry. "That's all right."

He led the horse to the bridge. Lady Marie was leaning over the wall and looking at the stream. She turned with a radiant smile, all the coldness and hauteur gone.

"Oh, thank you, Larry!" she said. Her eyes met his with the smile that dazzled him—as it had dazzled many another—and Larry gazed at her with his heart in his eyes.

"Let me put you up, Lady Marie," he said, and he offered his hand. Her tiny foot touched it lightly, and she sprang for the saddle, but the horse moved—it is probable that he felt the quivering of Larry's hand on the reins, and was made nervous—and Marie fell back. Larry caught her almost in his arms, and held her for a second or two; so close that the loose tendrils of her soft, black hair touched his face, as it had done when she had worn it long, and it had swept, a soft flood, across his cheek in the old days.

His breath came fast, his face paled. With a dexterous movement of his strong arms he steadied her, and lifted her to the saddle; and she took the reins and looked down at him. Her face, also, was pale; and the long lashes veiled her eyes.

"When—when shall I see you again?" Larry asked with difficulty; for his heart was throbbing too greatly for words.

She shrugged her shoulders slightly.

"It is a long way to Normandyke," she said easily. "You want to know if the countess returns? Ah, yes, of course! Well, I shall be riding down to the village tomorrow morning. I will meet you at the bridge here at twelve o'clock. But perhaps you will have gone?"

"No, no," said Larry. "I cannot go before I have seen the countess."

"Then it is an revoir until tomorrow, Larry!" she said; and she turned her horse and rode at a smart trot up the road through the valley.

Larry stood and looked after, his hat still in his hand.

"Lady Marie! Lady Marie!" He murmured her name to himself half a dozen times. He had seen her again; a girl no longer, but a beautiful, lovely woman, with all the graces and charms of girlhood ripened into those of a goddess. A goddess! Yes, that was what she was to him; and, indeed, as far removed from him as a goddess.

He recalled the beautiful, bewitching face; dwelt on it adoringly; repeated to himself every word she had spoken; called up every characteristic gesture; the slight shrug of the shoulders; the quick flash of the proud eye; the curve of the lip which was like no curve of any other woman's lip.

She had come back to his life. Fate had decreed that they should meet here, in this out-of-the-world spot. And he should have the supreme happiness of seeing her, hearing her voice, tomorrow!

He forgot the loss of his rubies; forgot, for the moment, the mission he had undertaken on the marquis's behalf. It was all Lady Marie, Lady Marie!

And she rode up the valley and through the pass into that other valley which lay at the foot of the hill on which the stately domain of Normandyke stood.

Larry! Larry had come back again! And he was no longer the rough fisher boy, but a tall, straight, strong man, with the air, the mien, the manner, and voice of a gentleman. But the same straightforward, straightspoken Larry! Her heart beat swiftly; the color she had managed to veil while they were together mantled on her cheek; her lips curved with a smile in which there was no pride, no aloofness.

She rode up to the castle in a kind of dream. The groom sprang to her horse's head; the heavy door was thrown open; the majordomo and the footmen bowed before her with the willing Normandy courtesy and obeisance, which is free of all servility, and still stood with bent heads after she had passed them and ascended the wide stone stairs to her own room.

There she went to the great mirror and gazed at herself long and critically. Her face was still flushed; her lips were still half apart; her eyes glowing with this new, strange sense of happiness; of joyous freedom from all care, as if a burden had been lifted from her very heart.

"Larry! Larry again! Oh, how long it seemed, and yet how short! And he wants to see the Countess of Normandyke! Why, I wonder? So you shall, Larry. But not yet!"

She laughed; but the laugh died on her lips; for she suddenly thought of Philip—Philip whom she had left almost on the eve of her wedding day; and remorse stirred within her.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20.)

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

Heve their mission in life is for the betterment of mankind, and while such a life is filled with hardship and sacrifice, these true missionaries seldom falter. Only those who come in contact with this great work can realize its immensity; it represents "salvation" in its strongest sense.—Ed.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS AND MRS. WILKINSON:

As I have derived so much good from COMFORT's columns I will try to write a few words in defense of how farmers treat their sons. Of course they have to work hard, but they do not mind that if they are given half a chance, and most boys are.

I will tell you about our boy who is fifteen years old. When he was nine, we gave him a pair of common chickens, and told him they were his very own to do as he pleased with. He has kept chickens ever since, selling and buying better stock. He sold enough to buy a fine hog and is going to buy a fine cow and later a horse, getting it all from the start these chickens gave him, and he is satisfied and enjoys hard work. We give him ground to make his feed on, we let him ride or drive a horse when they are not worked down, having always taught him to be kind to animals of any kind. I think if all farmers would try a similar plan there would be more satisfied boys on the farm, for boys are generally what we make them.

I am thirty-four years old, five feet five inches tall and weigh one hundred and ten pounds. Have blue eyes and black hair and medium complexion. Am nearly an invalid from indigestion and headache. I am the mother of nine children, seven of them living and two gone to that great beyond, both having died in infancy.

I live in West Florida, a lovely place. Well, I know dear Mrs. Wilkinson is getting tired for I have stayed longer than I intended.

Mrs. W. M. SURENCEY, Darlington, Fla.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

As I never see any letters from Iowa, I decided to write a few words. I always read the "Sisters' Corner" first and am especially interested in letters from California as we intend moving there.

This is a beautiful place in N. Y. Iowa, about twenty-five miles from the "Father of Waters." Small rivers, bluffs, and natural timber make it a veritable Switzerland. The population is all Roman Catholic, who have the finest country church in America.

My husband is buttermaker at the creamery here, so this is not a permanent home. We wish to go into dairying in California as the cold here is very trying. We lived in central Minn. one summer but didn't like it.

You nursing mothers whose babies have colic, quit tea drinking and I think your baby will enjoy a rest from colic. I know everyone says "Drink tea." I say "Don't." My baby had a colic six weeks steady, getting so nervous I had to give her sleeping powders. I finally woke up to the fact that it was the tea I drank, and so used cocoa and chocolate freely instead, and baby slept eighteen hours out of twenty-four for months.

If you sisters have trouble in keeping track of sewing patterns, tack a discarded soft pillow cover on back of sewing-room door and put them in there.

Well, someone is crowding, so I'll close. Should like to hear from any who care to write, especially those in California.

Should like to take a little girl or boy three years old to rear. Our first baby was three last Oct.

Mrs. W. C. FRANK, New Vienna, Iowa.

Mrs. Frank. "A cup of tea always rests me" is a remark commonly heard. But how many realize that this so-called restful feeling simply means that sufficient caffeine has been taken to stimulate the brain, probably about three grains, and that later a reaction will take place?

Dr. Wiley, formerly chief chemist in the Pure Food Department at Washington, shows us that a cup of coffee contains four grains of caffeine. Twenty grains will cause serious illness, so it is readily seen why coffee is harmful. Tea and coffee both disturb the liver, produce a poison that causes rheumatism, greatly reduces digestion and causes nervous and sick headaches.

Tea and coffee drinking are so common, as well as the attending results, that it serves to conceal the damage done.

Tea and coffee are in the same category as alcohol, only less active. Children who are allowed tea and coffee will be extremely nervous and inclined to cry without cause.

I wish every mother would stop the use of tea as you did. It only takes a few days to notice an improvement, which will be marked by a clearer head, unless the drinking has become a fixed habit; in which case a nervousness and irritability will follow, which shows the extent of harm already done, and then it becomes a self-battle.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Please move over a little and make room for a North Carolina sister just a few minutes, and then I'll run back to my work.

We have had COMFORT in our family ever since I was a little girl and I like it better all the time, and don't see how I could do without it.

I am twenty-seven years old, have been married six years. My husband is good and kind, and I have one of the sweetest little blue-eyed boys just two years and eight months old, who is the pride of our home. I love to read the sisters' letters on the rearing of children. We can never know too much, they are dear little things just loaned to us.

I am glad to say I am a farmer's wife. We have a nice little home and a small farm all our own. We can raise most anything here, but our main crops are sweet and Irish potatoes, corn and watermelons. We can have a garden all the year around. We have a cow, raise hogs, chickens, turkeys and flowers. Our roses do fine here, and are now in bloom.

Most all the families have telephones in their homes. We have no central but call each other by the number of rings, each one knowing their number.

Several of our farmers have their automobiles.

Sisters, I wish those of you also who do not live near the water could see the wild fowl in front of our home. There are large flocks of ducks, geese and swan feeding, and you can hear their calls day and night. My husband has just this minute come in with a nice large swan. Northern people come down this time of year to hunt. Geese and swan are more difficult to get than duck.

My husband is also a fisherman and we have plenty of nice fresh fish to eat.

The Curruck and Albermarle Sounds join in front of our home and we can see the Croatan Sound just below.

May God bless Uncle Charlie in his noble work; bless Mrs. Wilkinson, and all of COMFORT's many readers is the wish of your friend.

Mrs. CARLETON GIBBS, Point Harbor, N. C.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

May I step in to the sunshine of your cozy corner this lonely afternoon?

I have just been reading the story of Uncle Charlie's life. What a dear, noble soul he is; just think of the noble deeds and many ways of sunshine sent out from this dear soul to cheer and brighten the path of others? I think Uncle Charlie is a perfect jewel, carrying on this grand work of helping others, never complaining of his own misfortune. How I wish more of us could be like that!

Artie Cox, rubbing your sister's limbs would prove beneficial; give warm baths and follow with a good alcohol rub.

To the sister who wanted a cure for rheumatism, try this remedy which was given me by a trained nurse at St. Luke's Hospital and highly recommended. One pint of gin, one ounce of sulphur, and juice of one lemon, let stand twenty-four hours. Dose, one tablespoonful three times a day. Try this, it may help you.

Mrs. Emma Jones, Collinsville, Texas, you have my deepest sympathies, as I, too, lost a darling baby boy. I have two boys left to me, one twelve and the other ten. They are a great comfort and help me in many ways.

Mrs. Anna E. Konecke. You are doing a very noble deed for your son. I really think many foster parents are far better mothers than a great many own mothers. If we have no children of our own, and our hearts crave our right motherhood, why not shed this love and sunshine into the lives of some motherless one? I think it a most noble deed. We have always wanted a little daughter in our home and I think we would make one very happy. I have tried hard to make my sons happy and I think I have succeeded. Our one thought is if we had a little sister our family circle would be complete.

Try using salt and water as a wash for weak eyes and gargle for sore throat, or boracic acid in solution is very good. Do not use too strong for eyes.

With all good wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and sisters.

Mrs. H. D. RYAN, 2309 Ivanhoe St., Denver, Colo.

Comfort Sisters' Recipes and Everyday Helps

Our New President's Wife Delights in Cooking



Picture Copyright by Straithmore

MRS. WOODROW WILSON.

MRS. WOODROW WILSON ENJOYS HOUSEKEEPING AND LIKES TO PREPARE SPECIAL DISHES WHICH SHE HERSELF CAN COOK.

With the Household Inaugural Number of COMFORT we take great pride and pleasure in introducing the first lady of the land, Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, whose picture at the head of this department tells you at a glance that the new mistress of the White House is a model home-maker and housewife; an example to the American woman.

Mrs. Wilson never overlooks the smallest detail of her housekeeping and many a dainty dish is prepared by her for the family table, for she fully appreciates how important is this branch of housekeeping and has given it great thought and study.

On page five is a picture of Mrs. Wilson which reminds us that she has a social position to maintain, and her lovely countenance tells with what reasonableness and womanly dignity she enters into this part of her life; also that it could never be to the exclusion of anything that counts for the health and comfort of her family.

COMFORT was very fortunate in securing the picture of Mrs. Wilson in the act of performing this important domestic function.

New Cooking Features

To add to the value and usefulness of this department, we are introducing a series of drawings which will illustrate the details of both cooking and serving.

Each of the egg dishes may be served from a platter or individually. The "Bird's Nest" and "Goldenrod Eggs" can easily be arranged by studying the accompanying illustrations, and besides being delicious make a very attractive egg course.

Eggs—How to Use and Preserve

That eggs, even at two cents apiece are cheaper than meat is a fact, when the amount of nutriment is considered. Eggs are a perfect food; very concentrated, and should be taken with rice, bread or potato.

Do not use an egg till it has been laid ten hours, as it takes that time to become set or thick, and be in a condition to beat stiff. For poaching and boiling eggs are best when thirty-six hours old. Freshly laid eggs are the heaviest, as the shell being porous, constant evaporation goes on; this explains why a good egg will sink in water and stale one float.

Keep eggs in a dark, cool place; pack them in bran or salt, small ends downward. Another excellent way of preserving eggs was used by the old-time housekeeper. Each egg was rubbed with slightly warmed tallow which closes the pores of egg shells; packed in rows, one on top of the other, with small ends down in a large crock which was covered with several thicknesses of newspapers and tied down and put in a cool dry place.

Where eggs are to be kept for several months, water-glass is an excellent preservative, is inexpensive, and can be bought in most towns and cities. One quart of water-glass is sufficient for two gallons of water. Before mixing, boil the water twenty minutes and allow it to become cold. Pack eggs in a stone crock, and have the water-glass at least two inches above top layer. More eggs and water-glass can be added. Use carefully wiped fresh laid eggs after the animal heat has left them.

Appetizing Egg Dishes

BIRD'S NEST.—Toast thin slices of bread, and to each allow one egg. Butter and arrange on platter or individual plates and put to keep warm. Beat whites



BIRD'S NEST.

until stiff, adding a very little salt; arrange on toast, and in the center of each slice the whole yolk of an egg; place in oven until egg is cooked to desired firmness.

STUFFED EGGS.—Boil eggs twenty minutes. Cut in halves lengthwise; remove yolks, keeping the two whites of each egg by themselves to prevent becoming mixed. Mash yolks till creamy, add pepper, salt, a few drops of onion juice scraped from a cut onion, and a little mustard. If desired, add a little minced chicken or ham which makes delicious relish. Fill whites and press together. Spread remainder of yolk mixture on a small shallow cake pan, place the eggs on it, cover with white sauce or meat gravy, sprinkle with bread crumbs and bake to a light brown.

SCRAMBLED EGGS AND TOMATO.—One cup of cooked tomato strained, one tablespoon each of finely chopped onion and pepper, and one half teaspoon of salt. Cook all together five minutes; lightly beat five eggs; add to tomato, scramble and serve on toast.

GOLDENROD EGGS.—First make a white sauce by melting two tablespoons of butter and working in two of flour; add one cup of hot milk, stir and bring to boil and add pepper and salt. While this simmers boil



GOLDENROD EGGS.

three eggs and toast three slices of bread which is arranged on platter and put to keep warm. Shell eggs, remove whites, chop them fine and add to white sauce and pour over toast. Force yolks through sieve or potato ricer and sprinkle over the top with a little ser-

oning. Small squares of crisp bacon used as a garnish also make a delicious relish.

OMELET.—Beat whites and yolks separately; to the yolks add a tablespoon of sweet milk for each egg, salt and pepper, and beat together; into this put the whites beaten stiff and lightly fold in a few times. Have ready a frying pan just hot enough for butter to sizzle; pour in omelet, set over fire until bottom becomes a little firm, and then set in a moderate oven until it is slightly browned on top, not opening oven door for five minutes.

A delicious gravy is made by straining tomato, adding butter, salt and pepper, and when boiling thicken with a little flour. Fold omelet once, lay on platter and pour sauce around it. A very handsome dish.

No. 2.—Beat four eggs very light; add salt and pepper and three quarters of a cup of milk and beat all together. Have ready a hot buttered griddle, drop in a large spoonful of egg mixture; as soon as it becomes set, roll and lay on platter. These little rolls make an appetizing breakfast, and the softer they are cooked the nicer they will be. A bit of currant jelly on each one is liked by many.

No. 3.—Sweet omelet is made by adding a scant teaspoon of sugar to each egg. Prepared as for Omelet No. 1, and when adding beaten whites to yolk mixture, at the same time fold in any preferred kind of preserve or jelly. Sprinkle with powdered sugar when served.

SCRAMBLED EGG ON HAM.—Mince boiled ham, add a little pepper and salt (unless ham is too salt) and enough thick cream to make it moist; put into sauce pan and stir until very hot. Spread on hot platter. To four eggs slightly beaten with a fork, add salt and pepper and half a cup of milk; place over a hot fire and stir until eggs are cooked soft; the quicker the cooking the nicer the flavor will be. Place eggs onto ham in little heaps; about what a person would be served to.

TOAST, BACON AND EGGS.—Fry or broil thin slices of fat bacon and lay on toast and arrange on hot platter. In a shallow stewpan have boiling salted water, and in this carefully drop one egg to each slice of toast. With a large spoon dip the water over them until the transparent look disappears. Carefully take up each egg, drain, and lay on a slice of toast with bacon.

How to Use Canned Salmon

Salmon is the best of the canned fish, and the housewife who lives a long distance from market and must depend on her storeroom to meet emergencies, will find a variety of dishes can be made from canned salmon that will tempt the appetite and please the eye.

The salmon in illustration shows a whole section including head, which, when fresh is often cleaned and cooked on; also the tail which makes a handsome dish. The salmon is here surrounded with mashed potato, then a border of canned or fresh peas. One secret of the success of this dish is to have everything hot when it goes onto platter.

The canned salmon steak is successfully broiled over very hot coals, or fried in butter on a very hot pan. On removing from can, gently wipe till dry. After frying, arrange on large platter; around the edge of salmon arrange a row of mashed potato; place in hot oven till potato is lightly browned. Take from oven, and beside the potato have canned peas, previously prepared by thoroughly draining water from peas, putting them into a double boiler with butter, salt, pepper and a teaspoon of sugar and allowing them to become hot.

A delicious scallop is made of canned salmon, fresh boiled potatoes, butter, pepper, salt, flour and milk. With a fork pick the salmon into small pieces and the potato may be coarsely chopped. Arrange in layers, first potato, then salmon, dredge with flour, pepper and salt. Fill baking dish in this order, then cover with rolled bread or cracker crumbs, and pour over sufficient milk to just appear around edges. Bake in a hot oven three quarters of an hour.

A cream-of-salmon soup is quickly and deliciously made by rubbing a can of salmon to a paste, and added to a quart of milk that has been thickened with two tablespoons of butter and three of flour rubbed together. Season with pepper, salt and a little onion juice. A dash of mustard is liked by many.

Another delicious form of serving canned salmon is to place can in a kettle of boiling water and boil twenty minutes. You now open the can, being careful to cut close to the edge so not to disturb contents. Turn onto a hot platter, and surround with hot boiled potatoes cut into quarters; pour over a drawn butter sauce and sprinkle with the grated yolk of a hard-boiled egg.

It is the careless handling of canned goods rather than inferior contents that cause so much sickness. Meats and fish should be removed from can as soon as opened and used immediately. Canned goods lose flavor very rapidly after being exposed to the air. Drain water from peas and beans and add fresh for



SALMON WITH MASHED POTATO AND PEAS.

heating, though peas are better heated in double cooker, and beans should boil hard at least twenty minutes.—Ed.

CHICKEN LOAF.—Skin and boil three chickens until tender, remove the bones and put meat through the chopper together with three stalks of celery and a small onion; season with pepper and salt, pack in deep dish and pour over it the boiled down liquor in which the chickens were boiled. Let stand in cool place for several hours and it is ready for use.

ELLEN M. JOHNSON, Iron Mountain, Box 231, Mich.

MARMALADE.—Have a sharp thin knife and slice very, very thin, one lemon, one orange and one grape fruit. I peel the grape fruit as we do not like the bitter. Prepare as much fruit as desired, using this proportion. To each cup of fruit pour over three cups of clear water and let stand over night in earthen crock or agate kettle. In the morning boil ten minutes, remove from fire and let stand until following morning when you measure, and to each cup add one cup of granulated sugar; boil two hours or until it is the consistency of jelly. Put in glasses and keep same as jelly.

VINAIGRETTE.—(Can use any kind of cold meat). One pint of ground meat, four hard pickles and four hard-boiled eggs chopped. Mix with one cup of mayonnaise.

BAKED APPLES.—Peel and halve and lay in new tin or agate pan. To a cup of sugar mix in a tablespoon of flour and pour over apples, a cup of water and a pinch of butter on each apple. Bake till clear and tender.

MRS. LEWIS FARES, Lincoln, Ill.

FLOATING ISLAND.—One quart of milk; as soon as it boils pour onto the yolks of four beaten eggs, three quarters cup of sugar and one quarter teaspoon of salt beaten together; return to kettle and boil for a moment, stirring constantly. Remove from fire, add vanilla to taste and put in a covered dish. Have egg whites well beaten and drop on custard by spoonfuls, then cover immediately. Drop a bit of bright jelly on the islands before serving.

RAISIN BREAD.—For two good-sized loaves take enough bread dough and add one cup of sugar, raisins, and hard butter as wanted. Then work into the dough. Let rise and bake in moderate oven one hour.

CUP DUMPLING.—Into a cup put a few pieces of fruit (berries, apple or peach slices anything preferred), add a few bits of biscuit dough, then more fruit and more dough until the cup is full. Stand the cups in a steamer and steam thirty-five minutes.

BANANA FRITTERS.—Use one half the measure of milk as of flour, and for one cup of flour use two eggs beaten separately, one tablespoon melted butter, one teaspoon of sugar. Make batter three or four hours before using adding whites of eggs and bananas just before frying. The fat should be one third or one half inch deep and hot enough to send up a blue smoke.

AUNT JENNIE'S CORN PONE.—One half cup of sugar, one half teaspoon salt, two tablespoons of butter creamed together and two whole eggs beaten in; add one cup of sour cream, one teaspoon of soda, one cup of flour and three cups of corn meal.

POTATO SCALLOP.—Mince a little cold meat very fine with a few savory herbs and a little butter, pepper and salt; mix with mashed potato. Butter some scallop shells or shallow individual dishes. Fill with the mixture, put a bit of butter on each and sprinkle with bread crumbs. Bake in moderate oven and serve hot.

Mrs. J. E. WEIR, Washington, D. C. N. Y. Pa.

NUT COOKIES.—Rub two tablespoons of butter and one half cup of sugar to a cream; add one egg beaten, two tablespoons of milk, one quarter teaspoon of salt, one teaspoon of baking powder, one cup of flour and one cup chopped nuts. Drop by teaspoonful in pan and bake in quick oven.

Mrs. JAMES M. CROW, Lucasville, B. R. 1, Ohio.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.)



Beans That One Never Forgets

After you buy one can of Van Camp's we have nothing more to say.

Then you'll know, as millions know, what a dish we bake.

And you never will forget.

Our whole object is to induce you to try them. To compare them with other baked beans.

We have spent 51 years bringing this dish to perfection.

We've employed famous chefs—devised steam-heated ovens.

Money, time and skill have been lavished on this dish.

Now we ask you, for your own sake, to note the result.

Van Camp's
BAKED WITH TOMATO SAUCE
PORK AND BEANS

"The National Dish"

To get the right beans—ripe, plump, even-sized—we pay three times what some grades cost.

To get the right sauce—with a sparkling zest—we spend five times what common sauce sells for.

To bake without crisping, without bursting the beans, we bake in steam ovens.

To make the beans mealy we bake in small lots—at 245 degrees.

We bake the tomato sauce with the beans, to get the flavor through them.

Then we sterilize each can after the sealing. Thus the beans come to you with the fresh oven flavor.

There are no other beans like Van Camp's.

See if this trouble pays. Try a few cans and note the distinction.

Let the folks at your table say what they like best—Van Camp's or common beans.

Three sizes:

10, 15, and 20 cents per can

Baked By

Van Camp Packing Co.

Established 1861

Indianapolis, Ind.

Household Conveniences for Comfort Readers

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Door Screen

The door of a sick room must be open a good deal of the time, but if it is so located as to give callers at the outside door a view of the patient it is undesirable. The screen illustrated is good under such conditions. It is a light wooden frame covered with cloth. A small pair of spring hinges fasten it to the door. The screen may be lifted off at any time, without using a screw-driver. Another fine use for the screen is to protect the sleeper from the glare of the sun or a light that is left burning all night. Once used you will find it indispensable in caring for an old person or an invalid.

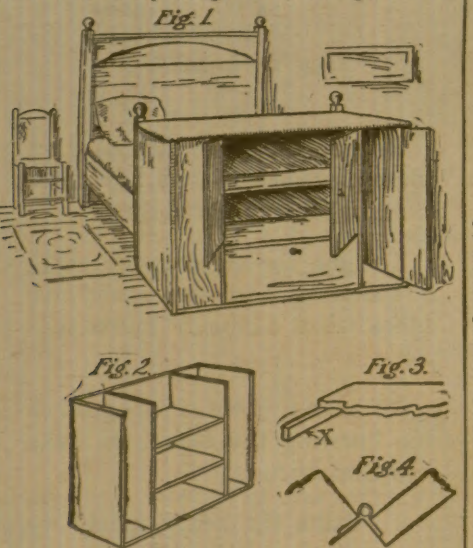
THE INVALID'S PROTECTION.

Ventilating

In the past few years we have heard so much about the virtue and health-giving qualities of fresh air that we are moved to do something that will insure its constant presence in every room of the house. The ventilator shown here is for any window or better still for all windows, especially those of sleeping apartments. A pine board is fitted in under the sash, and two square holes, like Fig. 4, are cut in it. These holes are covered with tin cans which have both ends open and have also in each a square hole corresponding to the ones in the board. The air cannot blow directly through the hole but must enter through the open ends of the cans. This prevents drafts and rain and snow from blowing in. The best time to begin to use this ventilator is today. Don't wait until the doctor advises it.

Bed Cupboard

Where there is much need of conserving space a cupboard like the picture will be found of use. It will hold as much as a good-sized closet and occupies only a small part of the room. It is built against the end of the bed or may be placed in any part of the room convenient. It is a neat and roomy design for a storage box for

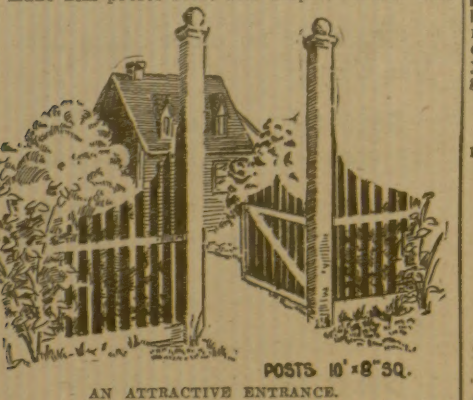


HANDY FOR MANY NEEDS.

bed clothes, to be placed in the attic or spare room. Fig. 4 shows the hinge plan. The hinges are screwed to the edge of the door and when the door is shut, only the ball or round part of the hinge is to be seen. Use pine boards for the cupboard and finish with white paint or enamel. Wrap each wooden garment in a separate newspaper as a moth protection.

A Gate Design

It may be true that you cannot judge a book by the cover but it still remains a fact that if a home is neat the very gatepost will give evidence of it. A traveler rushing by on a train can see enough difference in the farmsteads he passes to make him prefer some and despise others. The



AN ATTRACTIVE ENTRANCE.

picture shows a gate design of striking simplicity and beauty. The cost of building is only equal to that of the common type and it is needless to say this kind looks much better. Most people have the idea that refinement in exterior decoration can only be purchased with dollars. Doesn't this little picture show clearly that brains and not money must be expended? Imagine it painted in pure white with green trimmings. If you want to make it a reality save the cut and show it to your husband or local mechanic.

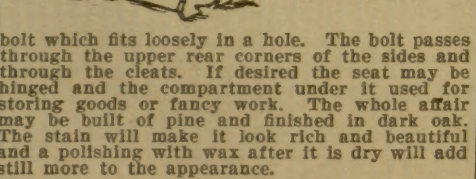
Stenciling Plan

This device will aid you in stenciling a straight and uniform border across the room. The stencil, Fig. 2, is cut out of the regulation oiled paper, and has two light wooden cleats glued to it to keep it flat. A flat stick like a piece of lath is tacked to the bottom, and to this the adjustable pole Fig. 3 is screwed with the set screw. In using, the pole touches the floor and if the floor is level of course the top of the pole or stencil design must be level. When you are down about half way between the ceiling and floor it is very hard to keep a straight course unless you are supplied with a gauge pole like this. Designs for stencils are obtained in various ways. Wall paper patterns suggest some good ones.

DO YOUR OWN STENCILING.

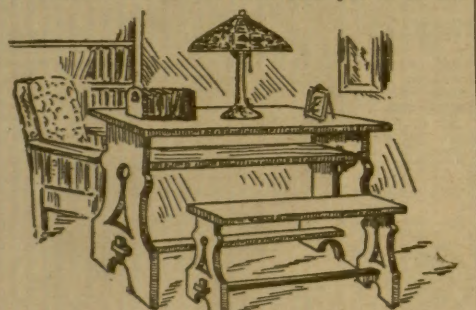
Handy Seat

I think this is certainly a useful piece of furniture for the porch or sewing corner. The adjustable feature is in the top. It has two cleats on the under side which are pivoted to the sides of the seat. A pivot in this case is a bolt which fits loosely in a hole. The bolt passes through the upper rear corners of the sides and through the cleats. If desired the seat may be hinged and the compartment under it used for storing goods or fancy work. The whole affair may be built of pine and finished in dark oak. The stain will make it look rich and beautiful and a polishing with wax after it is dry will add still more to the appearance.



Library Set

The library is one room where true refinement of decoration and furnishing is desired. The view we show here would be good enough for the finest home in the land and yet it is not

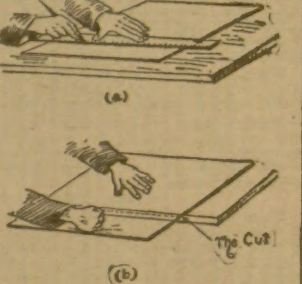


ATTRACTIVE AND CONVENIENT.

expensive. Nowadays effort is made to do away with glare, and tawdriness and to accentuate simplicity and real worth in furniture. This table and seat is a good example of modern treatment. The pieces may be made to fit your own requirements as to size and any handy man or carpenter can do the work. You can apply the finish yourself and the result will be satisfactory. If oak or any hardwood is used first stain and fill with wood filler, then stain a thin and either varnish or polish with wax. The wax is the best from every point of view. If pine is used follow the same course, but use shellac for the filler. You can make the work easier by cutting out some of the curves.

Glass Cutter

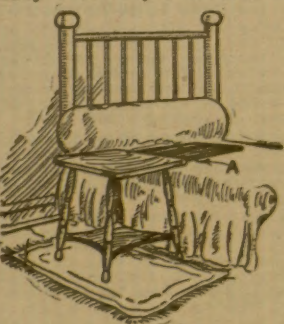
In cutting glass to frame small pictures, I frequently found this plan of use. A small three-cornered file is rubbed on stone until the end is rather sharp. It is then heated to a cherry red and repeatedly plunged into a lump of beeswax. This is to temper it hard. It is then used as the picture shows. By rubbing it hard along the edge of your ruler you will score deeply any common glass. To break at the mark, let it project off the table top and break down on it. The most important part is to have your line reach the extreme edges of the pane of glass.



GLASS CUTTING MADE EASY.

Sickroom Idea

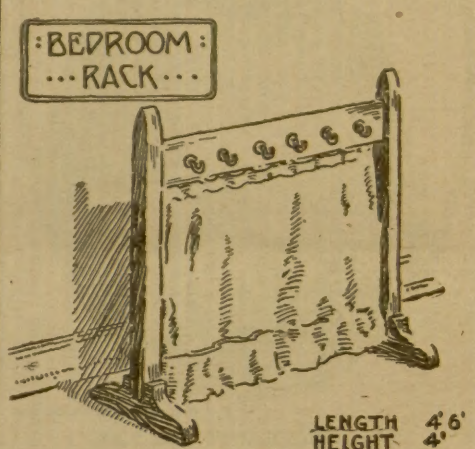
Unfortunately we all have our sick folks, and many a home shelters a hopeless invalid. Of course we cannot do half enough to aid them but we must do what we can. The picture shows a stand to the under side of which a wide board four or five feet long has been screwed. It is used in the position indicated as a table for the person confined in bed. The under shelf of the stand must be weighted down to prevent tipping. Measure the length of the screws before using so as to avoid having them long enough to show through the table top. The extension is just as handy for reading and writing as it is for serving meals on.



IT INSURES SAFETY.

Bedroom Rack

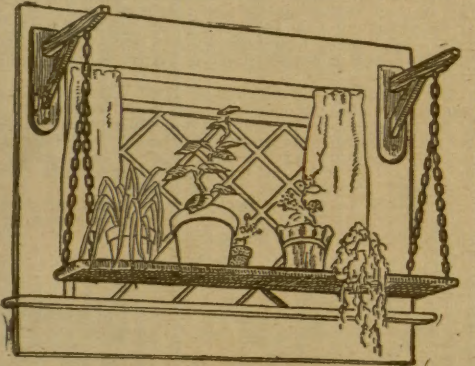
In this article utility and beauty are nicely blended. It will serve as a screen during the hot weather when a bedroom door may be left open without sacrificing privacy. The half dozen large hooks provide ample room for the hanging of one's clothing. A rack like it in a child's room will be a big aid in teaching order and neatness in caring for the wardrobe. The upright posts are two inches square and four feet high. The base blocks are heavier and have a notch sawed out which just fits the posts. The top rail is one inch by four inches and is mortised and glued. That means that the ends are set into recesses in the posts, just large enough to receive them. A lighter rail used at the bottom



is fitted in the same way. A small can of mission stain will be enough to finish the screen. Use cretonne or denim for the curtain.

Flower Shelf

The object of this picture is to show a means of raising or lowering your flower shelf. The brackets used may be made of scrap lumber and should be stained and varnished to match the casing. The board upon which the flower pots rest should be likewise treated and if good var-

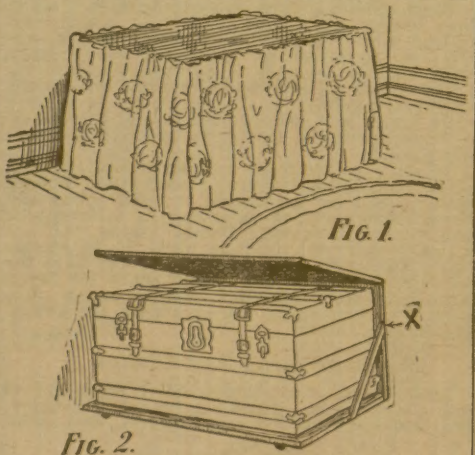


IT CAN BE RAISED OR LOWERED.

nish is used water will not stain or discolor it. At each end of the shelf drive two screw eyes. The chain passes through those and is shortened by taking out the last link and fastening it to a link higher up. For a high, dark place the board may rest upon the brackets. The idea is a simple one and should be of value to one who has a few favorite plants during the winter.

Cretonne Covered Trunk

A trunk is an unsightly object in the bedroom, but sometimes it cannot be put in any other place. The clever idea illustrated in Fig. 1 makes it presentable and inoffensive. It consists of a cretonne curtain attached to a light wooden frame and placed down upon the trunk. In Fig. 2 we show a wooden truck upon which the trunk could be placed and the curtain could then be

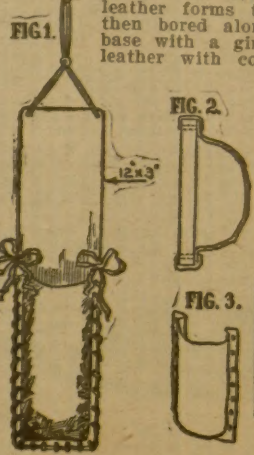


THE COVERING IS ATTRACTIVE.

tacked to the top, which lifts like a door. If you have a visitor who intends to stay a long while or if you are visiting yourself, no other plan can equal this in value. The curtain, and the four sticks that form the frame can be carried in the trunk.

Brush Holder

Here is a simple comb-and-brush or whisk-broom holder. A thin piece of wood finished in oak or covered with imitation leather forms the base. Holes are then bored along the edges of the base with a gimlet, and a piece of leather with corresponding holes is placed against it. A binding strip, which must also have holes in it is laid along the edge and laced on with a leather thong or a brown shoestring. Use the same string, if possible to make the bows, but press it flat towards the ends. It may be hung in the manner shown or screwed to the wall. It is a useful adjunct to a man's room and makes a gift that is sure to be appreciated.



READY FOR USE.

This Washer Must Pay for Itself.

A MAN tried to sell me a horse once. He said it was a fine horse and had nothing the matter with it. I wanted a fine horse. But I didn't know anything about horses much. And I didn't know the man very well either.

So I told him I wanted to try the horse for a month. He said "All right, but pay me first, and I'll give you back your money if the horse isn't all right."

Well, I didn't like that. I was afraid the horse wasn't "all right" and that I might have to whistle for my money if I once parted with it. So I didn't buy the horse although I wanted it badly. Now this set me thinking.

You see I make Washing Machines—the "1900 Gravity" Washer.

And I said to myself, lots of people may think about my Washing Machines as I thought about the horse, and about the man who owned it.

But I'd never know, because they wouldn't write and tell me. You see I sell my Washing Machines by Mail. I have sold over half a million that way.

So, thought I, it is only fair enough to let people try my Washing Machines for a month, before they pay for them, just as I wanted to try the horse.

Now, I know what our "1900 Gravity" Washer will do. I know it will wash the clothes, without wearing or tearing them, in less than half the time they can be washed by hand or by any other machine.

I know it will wash a tub full of very dirty clothes in six minutes. I know no other machine ever invented can do that, without wearing out the clothes.

Our "1900 Gravity" Washer does the work so easy that a child can run it almost as well as a strong woman, and it don't wear the clothes, fray the edges nor break buttons the way all other machines do.

It just drives soapy water clear through the fibres of the clothes like a force pump might.

So, said I to myself, I will do with my "1900 Gravity" Washer what I wanted the man to do with the horse. Only I won't wait for people to ask me. I'll offer first, and I'll make good the offer every time.

Let me send you a "1900 Gravity" Washer on a month's free trial. I'll pay the freight out of my own pocket, and if you don't want the machine after you've used it a month, I'll take it back and pay the freight too. Surely that is fair enough, isn't it?

Doesn't it prove that the "1900 Gravity" Washer must be all that I say it is?

And you can pay me out of what it saves for you. It will save its whole cost in a few months, in wear and tear on the clothes alone. And then it will save 50 cents to 75 cents a week over that in washwoman's wages. If you keep the machine after the month's trial, I'll let you pay for it out of what it saves you. If it saves you 60 cents a week, send me 60 cents a week 'till paid for. I'll take that cheerfully, and I'll wait for my money until the machine itself earns the balance.

Drop me a line to-day, and let me send you a book about the "1900 Gravity" Washer that washes clothes in 6 minutes.

Address me this way—H. L. BARKER, 886 Court Street, Binghamton, N. Y. If you live in Canada, Address 1900 Washer Co., 357 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont.

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Ninety-six lessons (or a less number, if you desire) for either Piano, Organ, Violin, Guitar, Banjo, Cornet, Sight Singing, Mandolin or Cello will be given free to make our home study courses for these instruments known in your locality. You will get one lesson weekly, and your only expense during the time you take the lessons will be the cost of postage and the music you use, which is small. Write at once. It will mean much to you to get our free booklet. It will place you under no obligation whatever to us if you never write again. You and your friends should know of this work. Hundreds of our pupils write: "Wish I had known of your school before." "Have learned more in one term in my home with your weekly lessons than in three terms with private teachers, and at a great deal less expense." "Everything is so thorough and complete." "The lessons are marvels of simplicity, and my 11 year old boy has not had the least trouble to learn." One minister writes: "As each succeeding lesson comes I am more and more fully persuaded I made no mistake in becoming your pupil."

Established 1898—have thousands of pupils from seven years of age to seventy.

Don't say you cannot learn music but send for our free booklet and tuition offer. It will be sent by return mail free. Address U. S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Box 12, 225 Fifth Ave., New York City. (Instruments supplied when needed. Cash or credit.)

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Why not buy the Best when you can buy them at such low un-

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Save enough on a single stove to buy your winter's fuel. Thirty days free trial in your own home before you buy. Send postal today for large free catalog and prices.

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To be a comfort to one's parents.
To protect the weak and aged.To be kind to dumb animals.
To love our country and protect its flag.

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COMFORT for 15 months and admittance to the League of Cousins for only 30 cents. Join at once. Everybody welcome.

NEVER send a subscription to Uncle Charlie, nor to the Secretary of the League.

NEVER write a subscription order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write the order on a separate sheet from the letter, and then both may be mailed together in the same envelope.

ADDRESS all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. See instructions at the close of this Department.

CONGRATULATIONS please. Let's shake hands all round. COMFORT'S League of Cousins came into existence in March, 1903, so this month we celebrate the tenth anniversary of the League's birth. When I contemplate all we have done, all we've managed to accomplish, I think we have a right to be chummy and feel somewhat proud of ourselves. We are forty thousand strong, and we ought to be four hundred thousand strong, but then it does not matter how inspiring the work one is engaged in, nor how much good one is doing, only a few people will put butt in and lend a helping hand. All the more glory, however, for those who want to identify themselves with the good work. I hoped in ten years at least we'd have a hundred thousand members, but I have not been able to get half that number together. Still we've done pretty well, and thousands who have not joined the League have nobly helped in its work. Thousands upon thousands of dollars have, in the last ten years been sent by the C. L. O. C. and our readers generally, to the sick, suffering, needy and helpless all over the land. Scores of poor souls who would have been forced into wretched poorhouses have, with your help been able to remain in their own homes, and the poorest home in the world is better than the best institution that was ever built. I can vouch for that for I spent years of my life knocking around in hospitals, or rather being knocked around. The wheel-chair club started in this department but it grew to such proportions that we have had to handle it in a separate column of our magazine, so once more let us rejoice at the good work we have done and plan for better work in the future. Every member of COMFORT'S reading family should join our League. We are working for social justice and human betterment and man's brotherhood. Our work is uplifting, elevating and inspiring, and forty thousand people are making these United States better today, and are being made better themselves by the fact that they wear our Red Cross League button on which is inscribed "Love, Virtue, Mercy, Brotherhood." In these four words are epitomized practically all that Christ taught. Come then and join us, we need you, and you need us. Join us today. There is no better cause in which you can enlist. God has blessed our work and he will bless all who engage in it. So three cheers for the C. L. O. C. On to the fifty thousand mark. I will head the procession, while Billy the Goat with his mouth full of tin cans and glass bottles will bring up the rear. Attention! Forward! January, February—March!

Well, we've had an election and got or nearly got a new President. Heaven knows, if ever a nation needed a change of government this one did. Sixteen years of one party even if it is the best party on earth is a little too much of a good thing. Eggs three times a day for sixteen years, and political eggs with a good half of them rotten, would pall on the appetite of the most inveterate egg lover, but apparently from the votes cast there were nearly four millions of people who still wanted to exist on a diet of political eggs, from the well-known hatchery made famous by those added egg experts of privilege and wealth, Cannon, Aldrich, Dewey, Peck, etc., and tenderly and lovingly guarded and fed over by the owners of the G. O. P. egg farm, Morgan, Rockefeller, Carnegie, Guggenheim and all their brother trust barons and punk political specialists. Strange isn't it that nearly four million people still wanted to continue on that diet; but then there are millions of people who will even drink whiskey though they know it is killing them. They are utterly unable to break away from bad habits. Now we are going to have a change of political diet, and the nation is turning eagerly from its surfeit of stale G. O. P. eggs to a nice smoking dish of democratic hash. That hash is going to taste awfully good for a time. It's going to be so good it will almost melt in your mouth and you'll wonder why you didn't give up those stale eggs long ago and try a mess of Democratic hash. After a while however the national appetite for hash will begin to pall, and you'll find political cigarette stumps, pant's buttons, cigar butts and other indigestible articles floating about in it. The hash served up will get skimpier and less inviting day by day and at the end of four years you'll be ready to throw the whole business at the head of the man who handed it to you. Then maybe you'll want to try a diet of Bull Moose steak and after you find the steak is tough and the moose bears the brand of the Harvester Trust, your stomach will revolt, and sick from acute indigestion you'll get nauseated and tired of that diet, and decide it's best to go back to deceptive democratic hash or stale republican eggs, or maybe try some entirely new progressive dish that has no moose flavor. There will be a good deal of wandering up and down political blind alleys for the next twenty or twenty-five years in search of political food on which all can grow rosy, robust and fat. Blind alleys though they don't lead anywhere, give those who wander up and down them a whole lot of experience and experience and hard knocks are the only things that will open the eyes of a nation. All these wanderings in search of a real, digestible, political food are like the wanderings of the Israelites in the desert, they are necessary for the education of the people, necessary to stiffen the moral conscience of the nation, necessary to prepare them mentally and physically for that promised land where they will feed on the manna of self government sent from on high to those who have through the weary years sought in vain for political and economic salvation. Many things will be done to make your journeying less painful. The balm of a hundred reforms will be applied at intervals to your weary feet. The women who were told to stay home and mind their business will march side by side with the men, making the road easier for them by their inspiring presence. But as I said before we've got a lot of wandering to do before we get out of the woods, for millions are still groping in mental darkness, unable to see the trails, which the modern day Moses have blazed for them. But every revolution of the globe brings us a day's march nearer home, the home of equal opportunity and social justice. Don't expect too much of your new political hired men. If everyone was a patriot and a genius, there could not do much to help you, for society today is an inverted pyramid, a pyramid that stands on its apex instead of its base, and nobody can do much with a wobbly structure like that. The apex is solid gold, the base up in the air is practically all poverty, for the wealth created by those who form the base, has gravitated into the pockets of those who are trying to keep this unwieldy pyramid from toppling over. A number of fine reform measures will doubtless

be passed by the new administration, but the measures that help the masses, generally pinch the pockets of the privileged few, and when that happens, privilege raises such a horrible howl, and has the ability not only to punish those who attempt to curb its powers of plunder, but to punish the whole nation, and this it invariably does, and then the poor duped tollers also set up a howl, turn round and read those who tried to help them, and go hiking off like a band of sheep in the trail of the boss, up another blind alley, only to be fooled all over again. Remember all the governments we have today are business men's governments. They concern themselves solely with business. A government of the people for the people by the people for men and not for dollars, an ideal we all long and pray for, is still a long way off. I wish with all my heart, the new administration success, but experience and the facts of history impel me to tell you that living is going to be as high as it ever was, wages as low as they can possibly be made, the full dinner pail will be an unrealized dream. Millions will still roam the country looking for work, the liquor traffic and white slave traffic will still do their work of destruction, and the lean hand of poverty and hardship will still cast its shadow over millions of homes. But don't be discouraged, the promised land is still ahead, and though millions must drop by the wayside ere the goal is reached, the goal will be reached all the same.

One election item filled me with ecstasies of delight. The women, God bless them, got the vote in four more states. With all my heart I want to thank the noble, broad-minded men of Arizona, Oregon, Kansas, and Michigan for making this glorious result possible. The women now can vote in ten states. The bats, owls, croakers and glib heads who have tried to keep this great act of social justice to women, the mothers of the race, the mothers who risked their lives to bring the male voters into the world, can now go hide their recant, degenerate heads in shame. Nothing can stop woman suffrage now, nothing could have stopped it anyway. God breathes the breath of His divine spirit into every movement for justice and reform, and no mush brained standpatter can stop the steam roller of progress. Oh, I tell you there are a lot of things in this last election that made me very happy. One thing the last election showed positively and plainly, and that's the people will not stand for any more of the monkey shins of the standpatter politicians that have disgraced Congress and made our government a byword and a hissing among the nations of the world. The reactionary standpatter is kicked out of Congress for good and forever, the old guard of privilege is a thing of the past. It has met its Waterloo. Any party that goes before the people for national endorsement hereafter must not only have a progressive platform, but must give up a half of its promises. Hitherto party platforms have been merely baits to catch pin-head partisans, bores and never thinkers. In future the sounding phrases of party programs will have to be translated into facts and from facts into performances. The people have not entered upon a deeper era of thinking but they are at last awake and beginning to think. They have stepped boldly out on the highway of progress, and now they have started, nothing can stop them.

Just a brief reminder that Uncle Charlie's two wonderful books, one of poems and the other of songs, a source of joy and merriment which should be in every home, can still be had free; the poems for a club of four, the songs for only two subscriptions. See full description at the end of this department. Don't miss it.

Now for the letters:

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE: I live on a cattle ranch eleven miles from town and I am sad and lonesome as I have no near neighbor. But COMFORT is a welcome monthly visitor. I want to write of the lawlessness that goes on in our land. One of my brothers was raising a crop of corn and cotton and garden truck on shares for a man at Mo. This summer this man and the selling and collected the money when my brother sold garden truck. My brother wanted his pay, but the man would not give him anything. Then my brother demanded his share. The man then made all kinds of threats and tried to run him off the place and then my brother tried in every way he could to get the man to buy him out without trouble, but he would not do anything. Then my brother sued for a settlement. Then he told my brother to come out to his place and he would settle. My brother took his account book and went. The same day that this man told my brother to come out to settle, he (the man) went to the Justice of the Peace at — and borrowed a revolver and went to a hardware store and took out the lead balls and got steel bullets and reloaded it with them. My brother went out as arranged and was standing under a shade tree (it was in August) when the man rode up in his buggy and said something to him and raised up and commenced shooting at him and shot seven bullets into him. Two boys saw the shooting, but were not close enough to hear what was said. This man went to the phone and told the police to come on as he had got his man. My brother was left lying where he was shot from 11:30 a. m. until 4 p. m. in the hot sun. So you can draw the picture of what it was when his old gray-haired mother saw her dead boy. We have learned since the way this man got his wealth, he would get me to work like my brother. When the crop was raised he would run them off. My brother was the first one he could not run off. Now that murderer is out of jail on bail from the simple fact that he is a rich man and has bought his way out. We are poor people and have not got as much money as he. It looks hard that in the grand old state of Missouri that a poor man in thus shot down and reloaded that a poor man in thus shot down and reloaded to go free. Uncle Charlie isn't there some way that we could reach our law makers? Make it a penalty for any judge that will turn such a demon loose on bail. Do you suppose if the matter was put before Roosevelt now since he has been shot at, that he would use his influence to make the state prosecute the murderer of a poor man no matter how many lodges he belongs to? I have a little boy. What heart have I to try to rear him to be a law-abiding citizen? Sometime he, too, may be brought back to me like my brother was brought to my old mother. My brother never carried a revolver in his life and yet the man that killed him has carried weapons and served a term in the pen and is known for his bad deeds and yet is allowed to walk the streets of — Mo. a free man.

Help the younger generation to enforce laws. As a family we have always been law abiding.

I will close hoping that you will never have to live through what I have.

MRS. L. L. A.

work, walking around free, unconcerned, impudent and arrogant and thinking no more of his bloodthirsty deed than if he had killed a fly. This terrible blow has brought home to you with crushing force the hideous and disgraceful lawlessness that exists in this country to a greater extent than even in any semi-civilized country on earth. God forbid I should add one drop to the cup of your anguish, but may I ask if you would be filled with the same righteous horror and disgust at the rottenness and criminal laxity of the law (a law that permits a fiend in human form whose hands are stained with the blood of a fellow to walk the streets a free man immediately after the commission of his dastardly crime), if it had been somebody's else's brother instead of your own who had been the victim of an assassin's bullet? There is the secret of all this country's ills today. We gaze with indifference at what happens to others whether they are murdered in cold blood by a human brute, slaughtered by hundreds in the bowels of the earth by the greed, carelessness and indifference of mine owner and capitalist, their life and strength slowly crushed out in mills and factories, or whether by low wages and insufficient nourishment they are driven to the brothel or a consumptive's grave, it matters not at all whether others are stricken with quick death or slow death, as long as our loved ones are not numbered amongst the victims. It's only when the horror of the dreadful thing strikes like a lightning bolt, hurling death and despair in the midst of our own family that the disgusting laxity of the law, the remorseless greed, tyranny and oppression of those in high places, is brought home to our doors, that the scales fall from our eyes and we see things as they are. Then we cry in our anguish: "Oh, God can such things be?" Then we beat our breasts and pray for strong and righteous men to deal out swift, relentless, retributive justice to the remorseless wretches who have stricken down our dear ones. It is only when the blow falls upon us that the scales fall from our eyes, we see the light, and our hearts go out with an overwhelming sympathy to all who have suffered as we have suffered and a burning desire seizes us to have the law enforced and the wrongs of all righted. People do not want to amend the law and right the wrongs of society, until they are themselves the victims of lawlessness and wrong, and it's this indifferent attitude of the people as a whole to the wrongs of the individual that is at the root of all our troubles. I know a case similar to that of our poor brother's, and though the deed took place two years ago the murderer has never been brought to trial. This man too has influence and a big "pull". He in the last two years is reported to have fixed every man in his county who is liable to be called as a juror on his case—if the case, as seems improbable, ever comes to trial, and he sneers at the relatives of his victim, and places flowers on the grave of their loved one, he has them kicked off or kicks them off himself. Think of that, and yet we call ourselves a civilized nation. We build tens of thousands of churches, we send missionaries abroad, we hold up our hands in hypocritical horror at the brutalities and atrocities of the murderous Turk; we let off firecrackers on the Fourth of July, wave the flag and think we lead the world in all that is noble and merciful, and yet when it comes to murder and merciless exploitation of our fellow beings we have the Turk whipped to a standstill. He only murders spasmodically, we make it a regular daily business. You yourself speak of the grand old state of Missouri. I know a dear girl who talked as enthusiastically of the grand old state of Illinois, but when her brother was murdered and his slayer allowed to walk around for years without even being brought to trial, her heart was turned to bitterness even as is yours. No more grand old Illinois for her. Do not talk of any state, dear friend, as a grand old state, or any country as a grand and glorious country, that allows self-confessed murderers to walk its streets on bail on bond as your brother's slayer is doing. They prate about this glorious Empire State in which I live, and yet between midnight October 14, and midnight October 16, 1912, a period of only forty-eight hours, fourteen people were done to death in cold blood. In London, a city almost half as large again, there were but nineteen murders during the whole year of 1911. Compare the figures and let us hide our recant heads in shame. In this city fourteen murders in forty-eight hours, in London only nineteen in 365 days. Think of it! Missouri recently offered a prize of a thousand dollars for a State song. Dozens of our readers begged me to enter that competition, as they thought I could earn some easy money, but I had no heart for the task. Even if I could have earned the thousand dollars I would not have cared to accept it. I would not write a song full of bombastic dope lauding and praising any state, until that state could prove to me that it did not put a premium on murder and crime by releasing red-handed assassins on bail directly they have done their damnable work; that it had also done everything in its power to crush the rum traffic, white slave traffic, meat out even-handed justice to all its citizens, protect the toilers at their work and see that they have reasonable hours of employment, and a wage that permits them to support themselves and families comfortably and happily; a state that equalizes opportunity and divides prosperity, a state that guarantees social and industrial justice to all its citizens, a state that provides for the sick and the aged and regards poverty as a disease (a disease it is its duty to stamp out and uproot), a state which solely concerns itself with the welfare and well being of its people. Show me such a state and you need not offer a thousand dollars for a song lauding its virtues and glories, for such a state would inspire thousands to write songs extolling its praises daily, and such a state you might indeed rightly and properly call a grand old state. But alas we not only have no state that measures up to such an ideal as this, but we have not a single one that has more than a faint conception of social and industrial justice, not one that will mete out justice impartially to all and make the welfare of its citizens its one and only aim. Some are nobly striving to better conditions but all are far from the ideal pictured above. I wish by the way that all the states that have state songs, would allow me to add a few verses containing bitter, biting, ugly truths to the fulsome praise and rabid glorification of which these songs are chiefly comprised. If they'd let me do the job, the various state songs would be laid away in moth balls until they measured up to some sort of ideals worthy of praise in song and story. More than ten thousand murders are committed in this country yearly, and most of the murderers go free, or are pardoned after short terms of imprisonment, or are allowed to die in or out of prison of old age. As long as we encourage murder and lawlessness we must expect to suffer from it. A state that allows murderers to walk the streets within a few minutes of the commission of hideous crimes and think how such an act incites contempt for law and what a shocking moral effect it must have on the community ought to be wiped out of the sisterhood of states and temporarily at least expelled from the Union. No man who takes a human life should ever be allowed out on bail, and when a man commits murder and his guilt is established beyond the question of a doubt, as in this case for here the slayer even phones to the police to come and arrest him, he should be tried, hanged or electrocuted within a month of the commission of his crime. Personally I would have him underground in forty-eight hours. Many foolish sentimentalists are agitating to abolish capital punishment and want to substitute for it imprisonment for life. Imprisonment for life for murderers might do very well for law-abiding countries, where murder is a rarity, but in this, the most murderous land on earth, what we want is swift, capital punishment, until respect for the law and the fear of God are burned into the hearts of the lawless. Let no guilty man escape the consequences of his crime. Abolish the pistol factory, or if that is not

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possible, when a criminal is caught with a murder weapon concealed about his person, fine the maker of that weapon ten thousand dollars (his name is usually on the weapon) and send him to jail for ten years, and give the same punishment to the man who sold the weapon at retail whenever such sale can be proven. There is a way to deal with the murder mania in the United States. There is a way to cure the blood guiltiness of our nation if we only want to do it, but we don't. We don't care who gets butchered as long as we ourselves are unmolested. I would respectfully suggest as a remedy that every state that shows a murder record exceeding a certain standard of Congress, be deprived of the rights of Statehood, the people living in that state heavily fined and Federal judges be deputed to administer its criminal laws and deal out swift punishment to all wrong doers. It would be useless to appeal to ex-President Roosevelt. People who assassinate or shoot at Presidents or ex-Presidents are never allowed out on bail, neither are those who kill wealthy or prominent people. It is only people of wealth and influence as a rule that can murder and slay at will and escape the consequences of their crimes. What we want to do is to awaken the conscience of the nation, and turn murderers over to stern, relentless, Federal judges, instead of weak vacillating pin-head state authorities. The majority of the states by their actions show that they are unable

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12.)

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Terms Used in Crochet

Ob. st., chain stitch, simply a series of loops or stitches each drawn with the hook through the preceding one; s. c., single crochet, having a loop on hook, insert hook in work as indicated, draw loop through thread over, and draw through both loops; d. c., double crochet, thread over hook, insert hook in work, draw loop through, thread over draw through two loops, thread over, draw through two loops; tr. c., treble crochet, thread over hook twice, then work off as in double crochet, there being three groups of two loops to work off instead of two; h. tr., half treble, same as tr. c., only work off two loops, thread over and then through three loops; d. tr., double treble, thread over three times, hook through work, thread over and draw through one loop, giving five on hook, thread over and work off by twos; sl. st., slip stitch, insert hook in work, draw loop through work and loop on hook at the same time; p., picot, a picot is formed on a chain by catching back in the fourth st., or as indicated and working a sl. st. r. st., roll stitch, throw the thread over the needle as many times as indicated; insert hook in the work, thread over, pull through coil or roll, thread over, draw through the one loop on hook. The roll when completed is straight, with a thread the length of roll along its side. The length or size of a roll is regulated by the number of times the thread is thrown over; o., over, thread over hook the number of times indicated; k. st., knot stitch, draw out loop about one quarter inch, catch thread and pull through, then put the hook between the drawn loop and the thread just pulled through, catch the thread, draw through these two stitches to form the knot; blk., block, a st. in each of a given number of sts., preceded and followed by a space; sp., space, a space is formed by making a chain of 3 or 4 sts. and omitting the same number of sts. in preceding row; sk., skip, to miss or omit number of stitches indicated in preceding row; p. c., padding cord; * stars mean that the directions given between them should be repeated as indicated before proceeding.

Terms Used in Knitting

K. knit plain; o. over; o. 2, over twice; n. narrow 2 stitches together; p. purl, meaning an inversion of stitches; sl. slip a stitch; tog. together; sl. and b., slip and bind; k. p. knit plain; stars and parenthesis indicate repetition.

Terms Used in Tatting

D. s. double stitch; p. picot; l. p. long picot; s. p. shorter than usual picot; ch. chain, a succession of double stitches made with two threads; pkt. picot and knot together. * indicates a repetition.

Tatting

NOW that this fine feathery like lace is again much in favor, in response to the many requests from readers, I will endeavor to give directions for doing this delightful old-time work, which was a favorite form of fancy work when our mothers were children.

Vying with Irish crochet in beauty it has one great advantage over this popular crocheted lace, in that it does not strain the eyesight, and therefore can be done by people who dare not attempt the Irish on this account.

A beginner will have to be patient and probably practice quite a little before they get the peculiar hand movements of the tatting maker. The directions should be followed very carefully, for tatting though so simple, is something which is rather difficult to learn even with an oral teacher, still, with the illustrated positions of the hands I hope to make the directions so clear they can be successfully followed.

One should practice with a piece of cord until they have the movements, and can correctly make a double stitch. Then get a spool of thread No. 24, a shuttle, a pin, and a small pair of scissors,—with these one is equipped for actual work.

When filling the shuttle, do not wind it too full. Start by taking the end of the shuttle thread between the thumb and forefinger of the left hand, pass the thread around all the fingers, crossing between thumb and forefinger and holding the middle finger far out and the thread tight. This forms what will be referred to as the ring thread. See position No. 1.

Always hold the thread between thumb and forefinger very securely. Now to make the first stitch, assume position No. 1. The right is the shuttle hand and moves back and forth, straight from and towards one.

The shuttle is held between the thumb and forefinger, and the thread passes from the end of the shuttle out over the little finger as is shown.

Now for the little buttonhole stitches which fill the rings. For the first stitch pass the shuttle or right hand forward, carrying the thread around all the fingers of the left hand, then pass the shuttle forward and under the ring thread, between the first and middle fingers, see position No. 2.

Hold the ring thread firmly between thumb and finger, draw the shuttle back towards you with a pull which will draw the thread coming from the shuttle straight and taut. At the same time let the middle finger drop and rest with the other two fingers easily, but within the ring thread.

Now the hands should be in position No. 3 excepting that the last three fingers are together. Spread the fingers, drawing the ring thread back with the middle finger as shown, thus forming the loop or one stitch.

This is made of 3 d. s., 1 p., 3 d. s., 1 p., 3 d. s., 1 p., 3 d. s., close, leave a short space of thread and make a second ring, then a third which should be connected with the first, and a fourth connected with the second and so on.

The zigzag edging, here illustrated, is made of finer cotton and is a little more difficult but very dainty.

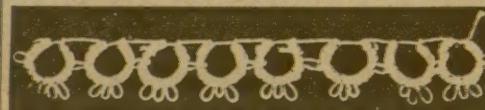
Begin by making one of the upper small rings of 6 d. s., 1 p., 6 d. s., 1 p., 6 d. s., 1 p., 6 d. s., close, leave thread about one quarter inch, and make the large picot ring of 4 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., 1 p., repeat 6 times, 4 d. s., close.

Make second small ring same as the first and join picots. Make third ring in the same way, only join to large picot ring. Repeat from the beginning.

Here is where the hard part of tatting comes in, but once one gets the knack of forming the loops of the ring thread on the shuttle thread as is plainly shown in No. 3 all is plain sailing.

It is in fact very simple and easy if one will only remember that the shuttle thread is the one to pull tight and hold tight after each stitch, and that the stitch itself is formed on this thread and not by it, but by the thread which goes around the fingers, the ring thread.

This is the thing to watch, as on it depends the slipping of the stitches. To prove if the work is correct after each stitch, pull the shuttle thread tight and then see if the stitches will move back and forth on the shuttle thread.



NARROW EDGING.

The second stitch is formed of a loop which is the reverse of the first, this time with the hands in position No. 3, carry the shuttle thread down and around the little finger, pass shuttle under the ring thread between little and fourth fingers. Draw shuttle thread tight and straight, keeping only the little finger in the circle formed by the ring thread.

Place the middle finger under the shuttle thread and draw the ring thread back, forming a loop on the shuttle thread.

This completes the foundation movements in tatting, and makes what is known as one double stitch, indicated in directions by d. s.

Picots are formed by simply leaving two of these double stitches a little distance apart, care being taken to allow the same space for each picot. Picots give the work a very dainty appearance and they are also useful in connecting the work.

To do this, use a pin or very fine crochet hook. Run it through the picot to be connected drawing up a loop of the ring thread from the unfinished work, pass the shuttle through this little loop and proceed as before.

All patterns in tatting are worked out by filling rings with stitches and picots, and then drawing up and closing them with the shuttle thread.

Uniformity in design is essential, and accuracy is most important in this work, as it is very hard to correct mistakes, practically impossible if one is using fine thread.

Early histories of tatted pieces show that they were ordinarily worked with cotton not finer than No. 40.

But some of the work which is being done today, almost cobwebby in texture, is of No. 100 thread, and rarely is modern tatting done with a coarser thread than No. 60.

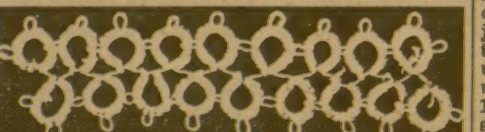
For trimming personal underwear No. 80 is the standard, but a beginner will do better to practice with coarse cotton.

Of the edgings the narrow row of rings is the simplest of all tatting patterns. Try it of No. 24 thread as here shown for edging ruffles for under clothes. Of finer thread this is a dainty edge for baby clothes.

In making this edging, form your ring first; in it put 4 d. s., 1 p., 4 d. s., 3 p., 4 d. s., 1 p., 4 d. s., close.

Leave a short space, begin as before, connecting with last picot of previously made ring.

The next pattern may be used as an edging, or as an insertion, by crocheting along each edge.



EDGING OR INSERTION.

This is made of 3 d. s., 1 p., 3 d. s., 1 p., 3 d. s., 1 p., 3 d. s., close, leave a short space of thread and make a second ring, then a third which should be connected with the first, and a fourth connected with the second and so on.

The zigzag edging, here illustrated, is made of finer cotton and is a little more difficult but very dainty.

Begin by making one of the upper small rings of 6 d. s., 1 p., 6 d. s., 1 p., 6 d. s., 1 p., 6 d. s., close, leave thread about one quarter inch, and make the large picot ring of 4 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., 1 p., repeat 6 times, 4 d. s., close.

Make second small ring same as the first and join picots. Make third ring in the same way, only join to large picot ring. Repeat from the beginning.

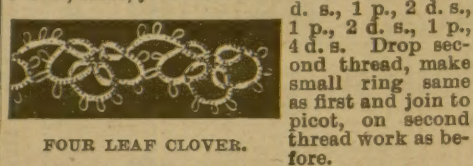
Clover Edge

This is made with two threads. First make three rings each of 4 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., 1 p., repeat 7 times, 4 d. s., close. Then tie in the end of a piece of thread from a spool of thread, use this as the ring thread, and

work on thus with the shuttle thread as usual. In this case make 3 d. s., 1 p., and repeat 8 times, 3 d. s. Then drop the spool thread and make 3 rings as before. After which repeat work with the extra or spool thread.

Four Leaf Clover Edge

The small center rings are each of 8 d. s., 1 p., 8 d. s., close, join in second thread and make 4



FOUR LEAF CLOVER.

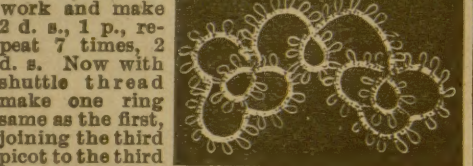
Make third small ring, join to first and second, work on second thread for the third time, make fourth small ring, join, work on second thread, one small ring, work on second thread, joining the second picot to the second picot of first completed figure, see illustration. Repeat the pattern.

Shamrock Edging

This beautiful pattern is especially nice for dollies as it fits a round edge perfectly.

Start by making the inner ring, 5 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., 1 p., repeat 6 times, 5 d. s., close, join second thread and make 4 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., 1 p., repeat 5 times, 4 d. s., join to third picot of first ring, 4 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., 1 p., repeat 3 times, 4 d. s., join to sixth picot of first ring, 4 d. s., 1 p., 2 d. s., 1 p., repeat 5 times, 4 d. s., turn the

work and make 2 d. s., 1 p., repeat 7 times, 2 d. s. Now with shuttle thread make one ring same as the first, joining the third picot to the third picot of first figure. Complete and close ring and with two threads make 2 d. s., 1 p., repeat 7 times, 2 d. s. Repeat from the beginning.



SHAMROCK EDGING.

Tatted Centerpiece

The simplest form of tatting, as I have said before, is done with one thread or shuttle only.

More complicated and elaborate designs are done with one shuttle and an extra thread, while still others require two shuttles.

For centerpieces, dollies and edges for any household linen No. 60 thread is usually used. This handsome centerpiece is edged with tatting made of No. 60 thread, with one shuttle and an extra spool of thread. It has an eight inch linen center, which should be washed before cutting. Finish this with a narrow hem and an edge of tatted rings, see illustration of narrow edging.

The border consists of eight large medallions each made up of seven smaller wheels tatted separately, but joined in the making.

To close the gaps between the wheels, small groups of tatted rings, made with one shuttle only and containing three, four and five rings each, are worked, after the large wheels are completed and arranged around the center.



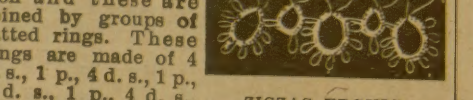
CLOVER EDGING.

Directions for making the wheels composing the medallions are very simple. They are as follows: With the thread on the tatting shuttle make a loop round the fingers. Work 8 double stitches, draw up. Turn the ring thus made over and join to it the spool of thread tying it securely to the narrow end of the ring just made. Now use the spool thread for the ring thread, as usual, and work on it with the shuttle, 2 d. s., 1 p., repeat 6 times, 2 d. s. Turn the work over and with shuttle thread make 8 d. s., join into the l. p. on the first ring, 8 d. s., close.

Make the rings with the shuttle and the loops of 16 d. s. and picots with the two threads. Repeat until there are 6 of the loops, join to first made ring.

The second or outer row of each of these wheels is made in the same manner, excepting that the rings are joined to the second and sixth picots of the loops in the preceding row. In this row there are 12 rings and 12 loops. Each wheel is joined to the others as they are made, by joining the seventh picots of the loops on half circles. Seven wheels form a medallion and these are joined by groups of tatted rings. These rings are made of 4 d. s., 1 p., 4 d. s., 1 p., 4 d. s., 1 p., 4 d. s., close. The second ring joins the first at the first picot, third ring in the same way and the fourth ring is also joined to the first ring as well as the third.

The center picot of each ring is joined to the medallions also as they are made. Where the wheels join to the edge of the center of the



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centerpiece are groups of three and five rings each made in the same way as the groups of four.

When the wheels are joined and the groups of rings are in place, with the shuttle and the extra thread, work half circles of 4 d. s., 1 p., 4 d. s., 1 p., 4 d. s., 1 p., 4 d. s., joining each of these half circles into the medallions and groups of rings while working, and also connect with the picots outlining the center. This completes the work.

In many designs two or more threads are often used, but beautiful work can be accomplished with one thread, and until one has become quite expert it is better to practice on such patterns.

Drawnwork

Every day drawnwork is coming more and more into favor. A touch of it in some form or



DRAWNWORK BORDER.

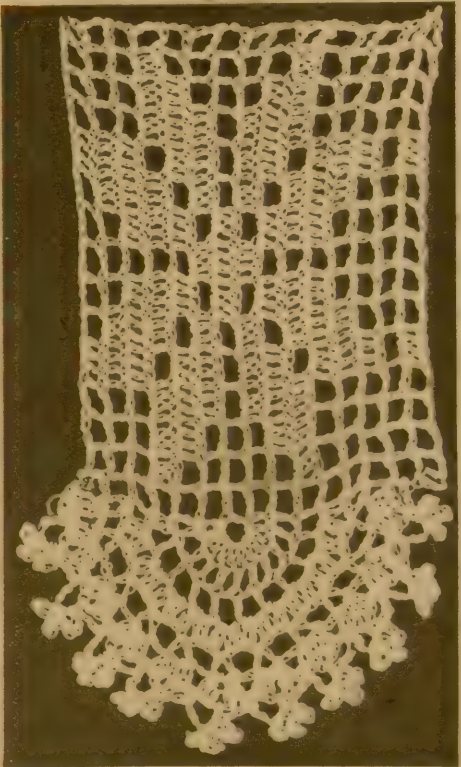
other is seen on wearing apparel of all sorts. The value and appearance of turn-over cuffs, collars and handkerchiefs is greatly increased if worked in this way. The border illustrated is very effective as it is well balanced, the heavy work being well placed. About an inch space is used, and a double center thread with three threads either side form the foundation on which the pattern is worked out.

Simple Knitted Edge Popcorn Stitch

Cast on an uneven number of stitches.
1st row.—Knit plain, turn.
2nd row.—The same.
3rd row.—K. 1, narrow, repeat to the end, turn.
4th row.—K. 1. Pass wool in front of the needle, thus making an extra stitch, then knit the next two stitches together as one st. Repeat, K. 1 at end of the row, turn. Repeat from beginning.

Star Lace

Begin by making a chain of forty-eight stitches, turn.
1st row.—1 tr. c., in 7th st., *ch. 2, skip 2, 1 tr. c., in next st., repeat from * 3 times making 4 spaces in all, 3 tr. c., in next 3 sts., 5 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps., ch. 5, turn.
2nd row.—4 sps., 2 blks., 3 sps., 2 blks., 4 sps., ch. 5, turn.
3rd row.—4 sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 3 blks., 4 sps., ch. 5, turn.
4th row.—1 sp., 3 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 1 sp., 3 blks., 1 sp., ch. 5, turn.
5th row.—2 sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 3 blks., 2 sps., ch. 5, turn.
6th row.—3 sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 3 blks., 3 sps., ch. 5, turn.
7th row.—6 sps., 3 blks., 6 sps., ch. 5, fasten in end of 6th row, turn.
8th row.—Make 10 tr. c., under, ch. 5, 3 sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 3 blks., 3 sps., ch. 5, turn.
9th row.—2 sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 3 blks., 1 sp., 1 blk., 1 sp., 3 blks., 1 sp., repeat around scallop, making 10 tr. c., in all, fasten in end of 9th row, ch. 5, turn.
10th row.—Fasten in end of 4th row, *1 tr. c., ch. 3, repeat from star to star 9 times, 1 sp., 3 blks., 1 sp., 2 blks., 1 sp., 3 blks., 1 sp., ch. 5, turn.
11th row.—4 sps., 3 blks., 1 sp., 3 blks., 4 sps., *4 tr. c., under, ch. 3, repeat from star 9 times,



STAR LACE. By Alma Steen.

fasten in end of 3rd row, ch. 3, fasten in end of 3rd row.
12th row.—Ch. 1, 1 tr. c., ch. 2, skip 2, *1 tr. c., ch. 2, 1 tr. c. in same st., chain 2, * repeat from star to star 9 times, ch. 2, skip 2, 1 tr. c., 4 sps., 2 blks., 3 sps., 4 sps., ch. 5, turn.
13th row.—4 sps., 1 blk., 5 sps., 1 blk., 4 sps., sh., 6 tr. c., under, ch. 2, repeat 9 times, making 10 shells in all, 3 tr. c., under last ch., ch. 5, turn.
14th row.—1 s. c., between 3 tr. c. and 1 st. sh., *ch. 3, 1 tr. c. in center of shell, ch. 3, 1 s. c., under, tr. c., ch. 3, 1 s. c., under same tr. c., ch. 3, 1 s. c., between 1st and 2nd shells, * repeat from star to star 9 times, ch. 3, 1 s. c., ch. 5, 1 tr. c. on 2nd tr. c., 14 more spaces finish the row, ch. 5, turn. Begin from first row and repeat.

ALMA STEEN.

Pretty and Useful Household Helps Easy to Make

Hanging Nasturtiums

Take a round wire basket such as is used to hold potatoes for deep fat frying. Line with green moss and fill with rich earth. Plant running



nasturtium seeds. Paint basket green to match moss, or bright yellow to harmonize with nasturtiums. This same idea can be carried out with an old wire quart sieve, or with a piece of small wire and a pair of pliers, clever hands can fashion a basket into any desired shape.

Straw Matting Hamper

Soiled clothes should have an abiding place of their own, yet it is not always convenient to put several dollars into a boughten hamper, and not necessary when one can be made at home from straw matting, four good barrel hoops, a few wires, and a few yards of carpet binding. First take one of the hoops and cut two round pieces of matting, one the exact size, the other a half inch larger; it is well to bind these immediately before going further as they may fray at edges. Neat work is done with upholstery or carpet braid, using the inch and a half width; or lengthwise strips of drilling, letting the selvage edge come outside. Put on bindings securely with coarse linen thread.

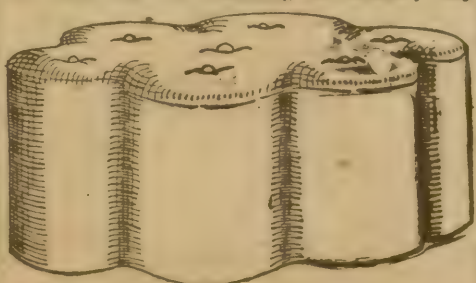


For the cover, take your largest finished round of matting and to the edge sew the selvage of a lengthwise strip, two inches wide; bind the cut edge which goes over the hamper. The cover is hinged with a piece of the binding material; also a loop of the same is fastened to cover to lift it by.

Put one loop in the bottom, two at regular spaces up the side, and one at the top edge. Hold in place with brass furniture tacks long enough to go through and cleat.

Home-made Footstool

Tomato cans will make the best sized stool; seven in number. Use the unopened end for bottom and hammer the cut end fairly smooth. Put each can into the top half of an old stocking leg, sew the bottoms evenly together, draw over top ends and firmly tie. Arrange by placing one in the center and the remaining six around; they



will just meet. Firmly fasten the cans together and cushion the tops with a little hair or cotton. To cover, use any desirable material such as carpeting, felt, denim or men's heavy suitings; if the latter, a very useful stool is made without cost. For the sides, cut a strip two and a half inches wider than the cans are high; sew to the stocking legs, following the shape of cans; lap top and bottom over edges and securely sew. Set stool onto piece of material and mark size and shape for top cover, and when cutting, if the material is to be turned in, allowance should be made for same; but if made of carpeting, it is best to cut exact size and bind edge with carpet tape, and fell neatly onto sides. For bottom, use any durable material, cutting a quarter inch smaller than the stool, and either sew or glue in place. Gluing is preferable as the stitches are liable to wear out. If you wish stool made heavy, put a cloth bag of sand in each can.

The Cook's Partner

To have a spoon here and a knife there, or to have them mixed together all in one drawer, causes many an undesirable arrangement. The "Cook's Partner" shows an easy arrangement



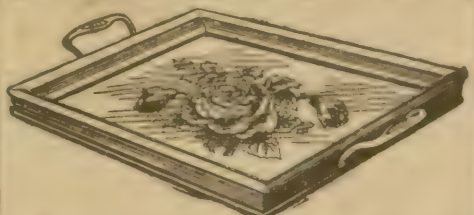
for doing away with all this, and any woman can make it. Take a piece of board eighteen inches long by twelve wide. At each end and

flush with the top, nail a half inch block; onto these blocks, and flush with the top, nail a strip of wood eighteen inches long, which leaves a half-inch space through which to slip kitchen knives, forks and spoons. Along the lower edge, screw in brass hooks to hold mixing spoons having holes in ends, egg beater, tea strainer, potato masher, can opener, etc. Screw onto wall within arm's length of cooking board.

Useful Tray

The artistic tray lined with tapestry or cretonne is a delight to the lover of pretty knick-knacks; only this happens to be a very useful one. All that is necessary is a bit of flowered cretonne, or an attractive tapestry design, a piece of glass and a frame of wood. If you have a discarded picture frame or an unpopular picture that you would be glad of an excuse to remove and use the handsome frame for a tray, now is your time to bring such forth.

Otherwise, buy a neat wood frame, simple in design, of mahogany color, and a glass to fit. Using the glass as a guide, cut a thin piece of wood just enough smaller to allow the cretonne to go over edges. Cover board with cretonne, tightly drawing and gluing edges on the back,



until you have a perfectly smooth surface, and let dry. Clean glass and put into frame, then the cretonne covered board, and fasten in with "tins," such as is used to hold window glass in.

Another method is to cut board exact size of glass, also cretonne, putting it in exactly as you would a photograph.

The back of tray should be covered with felt, glued on, it is a neat finish and gives protection to polished tables.

Brass lacquered handles come in a variety of pretty patterns. Select a plain one and with brass screws fasten one on each end. Where deep enough moulding is being used, and brass handles are not available, an antique effect is gained by cutting a slot, large enough to fit the finger ends, on the outside.

The trays decorate your table besides being useful on which to serve a cup of tea and plate of crackers; water, candy, on which to place a vase of flowers. If you have a sample, a piece of silk or embroidery you wish to preserve, utilize it in a tray. A ten by twelve inch frame is a useful size.

Rack for Roasting Pan

Racks for the bottom of meat pans are a necessity in turning out a well-roasted piece of meat. One can be improvised from an ordinary wire toaster, by the handy woman. Do not separate the two parts, but file off handles to



within one and a quarter inches of toaster, then bend them down to form supports. From the discarded pieces of handles, file wires off the proper length for supports under each end of center, putting them through the rings that join two sections of toaster in a way not to prevent folding. Use full length for long thus, and fold for small ones. A three-sided file and a pair of pliers are necessary tools. This rack still makes a good toaster.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS: I have been a reader of COMFORT for some time and think the paper rightly named. I so enjoy the letters from the sisters, especially the mothers, as I am the mother of nine from eleven years to five months.

Sisters, I wonder how many of you have triplets and twins! When our triplets came, we had six children under seven years of age; when the twins came, we had six under four years old. So you see for the last few years I have had my hands full as I do all my own work. The three oldest (girls) go to school. Sisters, you who think you have a hard lot in life with only two or three little ones to do for, stop sometimes and think what my work is. But some kind friends (some whom I have never met) have helped to lighten my burden in doing for my little ones, and by their kindness they have given us great pleasure and materially added to our personal comfort.

Sisters, one can never be too old to do good. I have just met a dear old lady in her eightieth year who has been to me twice; I so enjoyed her visits. I have been great pleasure in receiving letters; some from pen friends whom I have never met; some I hope to meet soon, while others I know I shall never meet face to face in this life, but hope to in that earth made new.

We live twelve miles from The Dalles. My husband works on a farm, but boards at home. We live near the post-office and store. I like it here better than I used to, though the wind blows terribly sometimes. The school being so far off is what I dislike the most, though this winter our little girls have not walked much of the time, as a neighbor's boy takes his three sisters to school and our three little girls ride with them.

We have a good teacher who takes much interest in her pupils. I was to visit the school the day after Thanksgiving. I think parents should visit the school as often as they can, for not only does it encourage the teacher, but also the children. I think a teacher's lot is hard at best. Mothers think how our own noisy band of little ones tries our patience. Again I urge parents to visit the school when possible, and give your children's teacher words of encouragement.

May God bless Mrs. Wilkinson, Uncle Charles, and all of you is the wish of your friend,

MRS. JAMES H. HAY, Wrentham, Oregon.

Mrs. Hay, Your family of little ones is very interesting, and that you are the busiest one among us I feel quite sure. "Many children, many cares; no children, no felicity."

I think you do remarkably well to hold your interest in outside affairs with the varied demands on your time. So long as we can think of others, and bring their lives into our lives, we shall keep young in heart and grow in greater service to those about us.

May physical strength, cheerfulness and sweet wisdom be yours with which to train and administer to your children.—Ed.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS: I have taken COMFORT for a good many years and think it grows better as the years go by. I think the Comfort staff is doing a grand and noble work. I have never written to this corner before, but in the last COMFORT a remedy for blood poison was requested, and as I happened to know, I thought I would tell you about it.

Take cranberries, cook them same as for table, then make a poultice of them and apply to the wound.

Our daughter had blood poison in her feet and legs till she could hardly get about. We had doctors but they could not help her, and she got no better until we began using the cranberries, when it began to heal.

I know it is also good for erysipelas, as I had it in my face very badly until I used the cranberries. Hoping that COMFORT will continue its good writing, I am your friend,

RACHEL TAYL, Waynesville, N. C., Okla.

DEAR SISTERS: I have read our COMFORT for 22 years and could

not keep house without it, for there is so much to learn in it.

I am interested in children as I have cared for a little nephew five years, coming when he was three years old, and now I could not part with him.

How many know that by rubbing soap or lard on the bottom of kettles which you set over the fire, that the black will wash off?

When I make buttonholes in underwear, I mark the place and then stitch up and down and across the ends until strong, and then cut. These do very well and save time.

For colds, put one half cup of vinegar on to heat; add butter size of hickory nut and sugar to taste. Take some just as hot as you can on going to bed. Cover up warm and by morning the cold will be loose.

Many blessings to COMFORT.

MRS. WARREN YOUNG, Alma, Mont.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON: You all have done me so much good that I can't help but let it be known with many thanks. I would like to clasp your hands this lovely Sunday afternoon, especially Miss Myrtle Prather, as I am a dear lover of the Bible and religious works.

I am the mother of six dear children, three girls and three boys, and my greatest desire is to train them to respect the Sabbath, and to love and keep the Commandments that Christ left here for us all.

Yes, Myrtle, it is very true that we don't have to be rich to be good. I believe the majority of good Christians are poor people, but they are the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14.)



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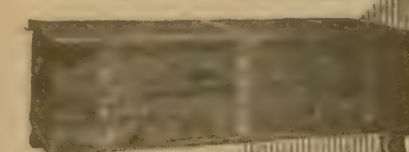
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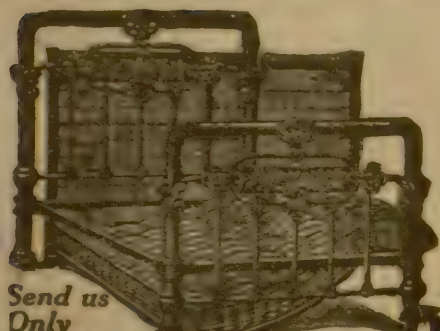
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Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

or unwilling to deal with the murder problem. They seem more ready to connive at and encourage murder than to stamp it out. Let Congress send into each commonwealth that can't or won't attend to this matter, a judge or two of the caliber of Judge Goff who handled the Rosenthal murder trial and sentenced Becker to the electric chair. If every state had two or three judges of the caliber of Judge Goff, instead of having ten thousand murders a year, we would have less than a hundred. The thug, desperado, gunman, assassin and murderer exist only because we encourage and allow them to exist, and because they have nothing but contempt for our laws, our courts and our judges. All this could be changed in a couple of months if the people had mind and heart to make the change—but the change will not be made because the people have not advanced sufficiently far along the broad highway of civilization to learn how to act together and pull together for the common good. There is no cohesion, no cooperation; it's every man for himself, just savage, cruel, brutal individualism. So the carnival of murder and crime will go on unchecked for another generation or two until education and enlightenment open the eyes of the people to the present horror of conditions which have turned our fair land into a shambles reeking with the blood of innocent victims. With the public conscience thoroughly aroused, with the people alive to their common interests, pulling together instead of away from each other, with the miserable, pettifogging judges and lawyers who disgrace our courts today, replaced by men of honor, character and probity, human life will be safe, and such foul crimes as the one described in the letter above will become unknown, and the brand of Cain will be wiped from the fair brow of our nation. It all rests with the people. If you want to get rid of murderers and criminals you can get rid of them. I have pointed you the way. By the way we coddle and foster crime it is very evident today that we are proud for the present at least, and desirous of keeping our disgraceful record of being the most murderous nation on earth.

P. S. I have not printed the name or address of the writer of the letter fearing that its publication might bring upon her head the vengeance of the murderer or some other trouble.

LIVE OAK, R. R. 4, FLA.
DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
I live in one mile of the famous Suwanee river. I suppose you have heard of this river in song if nothing else, and I want to tell you right here, that I believe that there are more game fish on Suwanee river than any other river on earth and we have great sport catching them with hook and line. There are trout, blue brin, red breast, perch, pike, and cat fish. If you like fishing come down some day and I will show you the finest day's sport you ever had.

I live in three miles of the famous Suwanee Sulphur Springs. The spring discharges forty-five thousand gallons of water per minute and it is the finest water on earth for rheumatism, dyspepsia, gout and such things as that, and people from all parts of the United States stop at these springs.

We have the finest climate on earth in this, the northern part of Florida for nine months in the year. July, August and part of September are generally pretty warm, but there are but very few nights but that you can sleep with a blanket over you. This is right smart for a Southern state, but it is nevertheless true.

I will close by saying God bless Uncle Charlie and the rest of Comfort's staff.

Yours respectfully,
G. W. TURMAN, LIVE OAK, R. R. 4, FLA.
P. S. If I see this in print I may call again, although I am a poor writer.

So, you live in one mile of the famous Suwanee River do you George? That must be a pretty deep river if you can live in one mile of it. You must lead a fishy sort of life, and must be half brother to a mermaid all right to be able to live in a mile of a river. You are on the water wagon all right. You must be well soured when you come ashore but as it is a prohibition souse, I don't suppose it does you much harm. It was

poor Stephen Foster who made the Suwanee River famous. Foster also wrote "My Old Kentucky Home." All he got for his "Suwanee River" song was a miserable ten dollar bill. He couldn't find a river the name of which would fit into the words of his song, so he got a list of all the rivers in the U. S. and found that Suwanee fitted better than anything else. Foster died young and was a genius of the first water. America ought to be proud of him, but not one in ten thousand who sing his songs, knows even the name of the man who wrote them, or anything about them. Such is fame. I am quite interested in those sulphur springs. You say: "They are a cure for rheumatism." Thank Heaven a cure for rheumatism has been discovered at last. Rheumatism is the curse of the country. Prohibition tries to cure rheumatism, and though it halts the ravages of the disease, it fails to effect a cure. Now I suggest that the United States government get all the old drunks, all the bootleggers, and all the saloon loafers and chase them down to your sulphur springs. If that isn't possible, George, you ought to bottle the water and send it broadcast all over the United States. It seems an outrage that Live Oak, Florida should have had a cure for rheumatism all these years and never let anyone know anything about it. Oh, rats, the old Goat says you mean rheumatism. All my cherished hopes of fighting the liquor traffic and putting it on the blink dashed to earth. So rum must go on its rummy rampage of destruction and the Suwanee sulphur spring continue to bubble impotently. The only cure for rheumatism after all is to prohibit the manufacture of rum. You say your sulphur springs also cure dyspepsia. I've never heard of dyspepsia as a disease before, but now I've heard of it I'm sure to get it. I've had every disease going and coming except housemaid's knee. Of all the diseases I've ever had however, I've found that paralysis of the pocketbook and stringency of the monetary circulation are the most acute and distressing. If you think a course of your sulphur springs would cure these diseases, please send me a couple of barrels express paid, at once. You say that people from all parts of the United States stop at these springs. My, but you must have a tremendous population. Do they never get away? It seems to me after they are cured they might return home. You won't have enough water to go round if everybody who goes to these springs stops there. Probably you meant to say that people from all over the United States visited these springs. I'd hate to think that everybody who went there came to a full stop, for after people get cured of rheumatism I think they ought to get a move on. You say there are very few nights but what you can sleep with a blanket over you. Why, George, there is not a night in any place in the world, where you can't sleep with a blanket over you. There is no law in any land that prevents a man sleeping with a blanket over him if he wants to. If you think you've got the only place in the world where people can sleep with blankets over them, you are mightily mistaken. Live Oak hasn't cornered all the blanket market understand. We've got just as much right to sleep with blankets over us here as you have down there, that is if we've got the price to buy the blankets. You don't need to crow about being able to sleep with a blanket over you. You're not liable to get any Carnegie hero medals for that. Why up here where I live we even sleep with the roof over us, and if you happen to live in an apartment house you can even sleep with a man, his wife and ten kids over you, and that's going some in the coverlet line. In fact I slept in an apartment house where I had ten families over me every night. Of course I looked like a sheet of tissue paper in the morning, and I was well flattened out, but after a few weeks I managed to get round again. After these experiences, George, I don't think you need crow about blankets. Why one night I even slept out on a park bench with the moon over me. What do you think of that?

625 Rely St., HARRISBURG, PENN.

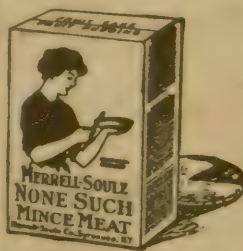
DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
I have often read and re-read your letters and find them to be more interesting than the ones I receive from my personal friends. Your criticisms mean advancement to everyone who reads them. If our country had a few more straightforward, brave and true men like you, there would not be so many trusts and such high prices to pay for our daily bread. You often hear people say: "Everyone for himself and the mighty dollar." Well if you wouldn't be, you would be left out of nothing. You are just like going to a good play. It is worth the price to know what is coming next. Like Santa Claus with a big packet for all, you have a big heart with a feeling of sympathy for everyone.

Now, Uncle Charlie, just a few moments' chat on the "Bachelor Maid." Are you against them? I hope not.

Do you think that they should be isolated on a barren island, so as not to hinder the progress of civilization, instead of advancing it, as some narrow-minded clergyman stated in his sermon sometime ago? Quite a number of our philanthropists are bachelor maids, and I think they understand life in all its phases or they would not be generous in lending a helping hand. I think any clergyman who gets in the pulpit and makes such statements before his congregation, should not be allowed to preach but be chased out of the country. Why are there so many bachelor maids? Because they are unable to find a real man in every sense of the word. And then conditions have changed so much that a man can't get on and would not marry the class of men our grandmothers did, and live happy on a mere nothing in this wireless age. No, we could not even exist. The true, sensible girl these days, does not want to marry a man who spends most of his time and money at a club or some place of amusement, instead of continuing to be the brave knight he was before he married. And then, too, why should a girl who is worth all single ladies, and what would our country do without them? In the wreck of the Titanic the women showed bravery equal to that of the men. Ruskin says: "Shakespeare has no heroes, he has only heroines." Then let our country have all her heroes.

Have you a Sunday School class for men or a class of any kind? I hope you have, as I feel you would make real heroes out of everyone.
Wishing you continued success, Yours very sincerely,
A BACHELOR MAID, NELLIE M. SUGBART.

My Dear Bachelor Maid: I am delighted to give your letter publicity, for needless to say I love you and all your class. I thank you for all the lovely things you say about the dope I hand out in this department of mine and I'm glad you find it instructive and enjoyable, and I'm glad that you appreciate the fact that I am striving with all my heart and soul, and every atom of strength I possess for the advancement of humanity. The world is my country, my religion to do good, and I wish that my talks could not only reach millions of Americans monthly, but that I could have all the world for an audience, and I'd have a man on the door with a big club to see no one got out until they heard all I had to say. You ask me my opinion about the bachelor maid. I respect and revere all good women no matter whether they are married or single. We always have had and always shall have many women who will never marry; first because in most countries there are more women than men, secondly because as you say, not every man who proposes to a woman is acceptable to her. Again there are many women who are absorbed in certain lines of work, work they can do much better than men, and who feel they can render better service to humanity and round out their lives of usefulness in this world more completely, by retaining their independence. There is scarcely a woman on earth,



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living a normal life, who is not strongly endowed with the maternal instinct and who is proof against sex attraction. Those women who prefer lap dogs to children were real women once, and under normal conditions would be real women again, but the utterly demoralizing influences of limitless wealth, ceaseless rounds of nerve-racking, decadent, social functions and the artificialities, parrot collies and mantilles of "sashy" in general and high sashy in particular, kill the maternal instinct and convert a certain class of hitherto sensible, level-headed women into frantic, fuming, fussy, clamorous, idiotic, preposterous clothes props. For this reason I have divided humanity into three, instead of two sexes: men, women and things. I don't think any woman realizes to the full her mission in life until that ecstatic moment of joy and rapture when she crushes to her heart the frail wisp of humanity she has risked her life to bring into existence. But not all women can be mothers for as you say, it is not everyone who comes to woo that a woman cares to mate with. Woman is far more spiritual than man and now that for the first time in the history of the world she has had a generation or two to develop, expand and grow, she is rapidly forging ahead of man in everything but brute strength, and even when it comes to physical strength and endurance it is worthy of note that a young girl in a grueling and terrific long distance swimming contest, from New York to Coney Island, left her male competitors limp and exhausted, far in the rear. That my dear boys, was Rose Pitonoff, write it in your hats. Love, however, rules the world and sex attraction is paramount and irresistible. Every woman is looking for Mr. Right, but unless Mr. Right comes along, women are not going to sacrifice their lives just because a home and shelter is offered to them by Mr. Wrong, a man who only wants a woman for a housekeeper and a cook, who forces a woman to bear a limited number of children and then growls and kicks because they are in his way, leaves her to take care of them and hikes off to the saloon or club to get away from the racket of the kids. As civilization advances and knowledge is more diffused and education spreads broadcast the blessed light of intelligence and reason, families decrease to the mutual benefit of mother, husband and child, for it is quality, not quantity that counts in the upbuilding of a race. Bachelor maids are increasing too, not only because women demand higher mental and moral standards in men, but because men who measure up to the average woman's requirements, owing to economic conditions too often cannot support a wife and provide a home for her, let alone provide for children, and all the other incidental expenses that matrimony entails. Go out into this big city of New York today, healthy and well educated, and see what kind of a salary will be offered you. You can answer all the "ads" in the newspapers for three months and maybe not get a single reply. The salaries paid for nearly every line of work are contemptible and will be contemptible until every line of industry in which men and women engage, is unionized. A friend of mine who makes from two to three thousand dollars a month clear profit from his business, was telling me the other day that he only paid his head bookkeeper fourteen dollars a week. "Then you ought to be darned well ashamed of yourself," I said. "I'm not going to pay more than the prevailing rate of wages," was his reply. "I can get all the men I want for that price." My blood boiled for his whole attitude was cold blooded and cynical. I told him he was putting a premium on crime by paying a man such a wage and I told him it would serve him right if some day the fourteen-dollar-a-week man, who was married by the way, got away with several thousand dollars of his cash. "I hope," said I, "that the day will come when they will be a bookkeepers' union, which will make you pay five hundred dollars a week wages to every employee in your office. That is the only kind of treatment that will bring such hog-it-all men as you to your senses. Such men as you are the men who make anarchists." Such men make homes impossible and fill the world with bachelor maids and desperate men, and this city is full of such tightwad employers, and the whole country likewise for that matter. Yes, Bachelor Maid, if you can't marry the right man, a man that you love and feel you can be thoroughly happy with a man who is capable of giving you a fairly comfortable home, stay single. Marriage is a serious business. It's easy to get into, but mighty hard at times to get out of without experiencing suffering and misery. Woman's sphere in life is broadening. She can afford to wait, and would rather wait a thousand years for Mr. Right and happiness, than rush in a hurry into the arms of Mr. Wrong and misery. Our bachelor maids are doing a wonderful work in this world; tens of thousands of them sacrificing everything that makes life worth while for the benefit of suffering humanity. No my dear, I have no Sunday school class, except the millions of people I talk to monthly with my pen. I have many male friends but I see few of them, and all the men I do see with the exception of two are so grossly materialistic in their views, that it's like butting up against a stone wall to try and get a worthwhile idea into their heads. They are savage individualists every one for himself and the devil take the hindmost. They are absorbed in money making, scan the newspapers but never study them, and outside of the latest fiction, they do no reading, and are as a matter of fact as ignorant as a child three years old. They are Troglodytes without ideals, and without any deep convictions. They are well educated in the general acceptance of that term, but they know nothing of the realities of life, nor the fundamental principles of business, either, except to grab everything in sight. They would pass through a million miles of wretched tenements, reeking with crime, poverty, prostitution, misery and disease, without noticing or commenting on the horror of their surroundings. To them such things are natural and inevitable. They know they exist, and they don't care that they exist, as they have

no desire to better conditions or to make life more endurable for their fellow men. They are utterly indifferent to all except that which concerns their own comfort and pocket. They have no ideas, no imagination. Money is their god, and money in the hands of such as these is the handmaid of the devil. They don't want to be drawn into a discussion or an argument, and if you can get them to discuss any matter of deep human interest their attitude is at once antagonistic and their remarks so puerile and childish that one can only regard them with contempt. I usually end up by emptying the vials of righteous wrath on their heads. They are too satisfied with this world and what it is bringing to them to enter any Sunday School of mine. If I wanted a Sunday School class I would have to advertise for the workless, the underpaid, the underfed. They would listen to me, and I could put some heart, hope, life and aspiration into their anemic bodies and harassed minds. Now with the women it is entirely different. Even young girls whose minds are usually occupied with thoughts of boys and pleasure, listen intently whenever I have a discussion with a moneyed bonehead, or am trying to tell one of their sex why women should vote and what a great part they play in the up-building of the race. They drink in every word greedily and come back for more. They borrow books from me, or go to the library to get books which I know will be instructive and helpful. It is just as it was in the days of Christ. Whenever there is a man who has a message to give to humanity, the common people hear him gladly, the rich turn a deaf ear. You have heard my message, dear friend, gladly and so have millions of others, and I am glad that in your case as in thousands of other cases, the little seeds of thought I have sown have fallen on good ground and fructified a thousandfold. All hail to the bachelor maid. She has done God's blessed work in this world and she will do His work until the end of time, though in those better days to come she will be a bachelor maid only from choice and not from economic stress and the lack of manly, noble men to mate with.

OLNEY, BOX 161, TEXAS.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
I am twenty-three years old, four feet eleven inches high, weigh two hundred and thirty pounds. I have dark hair and eyes and live with my papa and mamma and have no beaux. When do you think I will be old enough to commence going with the boys? I do washing for the people of our little town and I am putting my money in the post-office. Papa is janitor of the Olney high school and also of the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 31.)

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The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

The Beauty in the Looking Glass

HERE is no doubt in the world that a woman cannot present a good appearance unless she makes it a habit to look long and carefully in her glass, at her face, the outlines of her figure, her expression, and, last but not least, the fit of her garments and their becomingness. If you think this matter over thoughtfully for a moment or so, you will, I am almost sure, decide that I am in the right of it.

We are agreed, then, that it is the height of foolishness for the up-to-date woman to ignore the uses of her looking glass. It does her no harm and probably much good to gaze in her mirror if her face is altogether lovely as the woman is not born who disdains her own beauty. If, on the other hand, she be afflicted with this beauty ill or that, it will do her good to look her drawbacks firmly in the face, as how can one remedy their defects unless they are made aware of them? Indeed and indeed, all kinds and conditions of mirrors are essential to the lover of beauty.

It is false modesty that prevents a woman from making hourly use of a mirror. Do not forget



SEE YOURSELF AS OTHERS SEE YOU.

this and cease to blush when you gaze into each mirror that you pass, whether it be on the street or in a room.

I do wish every woman who reads this gossip of mine could own a full length mirror and a dressing table, as then I would know that blackheads, sagging skirts, untidy hair, and lily-pinned skirt belts would cease to be.

Those of you who are so fortunate as to own one or both of these toilet conveniences, should not rest until you have put these differently set looking glasses in strongly lighted sections of your bedroom, as in this way you can quickly see if any blemish or slovenliness exists. While such a glare of light is not all that a woman would care to endure under the gaze of another, it is quite a different matter in the province of one's own little room, when one is intent on seeing one's self as others see one.

Assuming that some of my readers have no room space for such pieces of furniture as dressing tables and full-length mirrors, and who find no way to get their bureaus where the daylight will fall searchingly upon the looking glasses, I shall take the liberty of telling you how to be well served by a hand mirror.

Of course one cannot study the hang of one's dress or one's general "get-up" in a small mirror but it is quite possible to see the condition of one's complexion and hair, the freshness of one's neck scarf and the crispness of the upper part of one's blouse. Is it not so?

Evidently the small hand mirror is as important in its way as its boon companions—the pretty dressing table and the mirror that displays its glittering length in the boudoir of the professional beauty.

As the hand mirror has no standard and therefore cannot stand by itself, as it were, why not make the best of a bad matter and hang it up against the window-pane, using the window-look as a hook from which to suspend the looking glass. Placed thus, I'll warrant that you will see displayed every defect of the upper part of your person. But you are not yet passing by on the street or road to see you peering in the looking glass. This they cannot do, if you will take the precaution to hang a sheer curtain next the window-pane.

Keep one hand mirror hung thus and hold up your second hand mirror when you wish to survey the back of your head and the fastenings of your collar in the back.

There is another mirror whose acquaintance you should make, namely, the pocket mirror. This beauty aid will pay for itself the first week in the satisfaction it will give you. Next time you are near a general store, invest in a tiny looking glass and keep it always in your pocket or purse when going out for a ride or walk. You may look pretty as a peach when you start from your house door but rely upon it before you reach your destination your pretty hair will be loosened or else a horrid smudge will disfigure your pretty white nose. Then is the time when the little pocket mirror will come into play and be the means of transforming ruffled hair and spotted skin into a state of beautiful neatness.

Another time when it is really of vital importance to be accompanied by a tiny mirror, is when one is outdoors alone and a mischievous cinder flies straight into one's starry orbs. Without the mirror one's finger would foolishly rub and pound the eye in an unavailing effort to get rid of the intruder but all to no avail. The consequence? Why, one wanders blindly along with streaming eyes and a red face until a friend is met who succors one. All this pain, disfigurement and inconvenience would be spared one if a mirror reposed in one's pocket, as with it in hand, the ugly cinder would be at once located and ejected.

I am forced to say that a great many women seem to need magnifying glasses by the way they pile on the rouge and powder, for they either cannot see or have their mirrors hung in a dark corner. It is a pity at any time—and especially in the daytime—to pile on so much make-up that one looks like a footlight favorite.

If you must use make-up, stand in front of a well-lighted glass and apply it sparingly. It is no harm to use artificial means to add to one's good looks if you have but art enough to make it look like Nature's work. To do this, touching up, though, you must have your mirror hung in a glaring light.

One last word. It will avail you nothing to have well-lighted mirrors unless you keep them

as bright as diamonds. A dusty looking glass will be of little use so make it a habit every day to wash your mirror with hot sudsy water, rubbing it dry with a hot towel. As a finishing touch, wet a piece of cotton cloth with alcohol and pass it over the various pieces of glass which are to have the pleasure of mirroring your reflection during the day. A clean looking glass will not only permit you to see yourself clearly but will be an ornament to your bedroom.

Answers to Correspondents

Mrs. L. E. G. Ala., Mrs. B. M. F., Maybelle, Florence T. and others.—When one is afflicted with a small bust and likes it not, then the best thing to do is to treat it to a fifteen minutes' massage each day with cod liver oil. Before commencing the massage, bathe breasts in hot water until skin is poppy-red. This will only take a minute or two if the water is really hot. After you cease your manipulations, pour a flood of icy water over chest and bosom. The cold shock causes a good circulation of the blood through the bust, firms relaxed tissues and encourages flesh formation. Remember you must massage with the utmost delicacy, else you will break down the fatty tissues which is just what you want to avoid. How long will it be before you will get results? Probably five or six months as the bosom develops but slowly.

Discouraged Nell, Interested and Discouraged.—Should one covet a bewitching fringe for the eyes, all that it is necessary to do is to anoint outer edges of eyelids daily with warm sweet almond oil. Be very careful, indeed, not to get any of the oil in the eye itself, else an irritating inflammation will ensue. If this treatment is taken every night for several months, you will own long, curling lashes. Massage your brows nightly with olive oil if you want them to be thick and luxuriant. Be careful to massage against the fall of the hair.

Cheyenne, Ugly Girl, Frances, Mrs. N. T. and others.—Reveal head on shoulders with neckles held tense and chin stretched up and out—for five minutes, morning, noon and night. This will fill out neck and shoulders, although not for several months. I also suggest that you massage throat lightly for fifteen minutes daily with cod liver oil. After you finish your manipulation, spray the throat with cold water, as the cold shock will stimulate the circulation and firm the flesh.

M. L. Salt Lake City, Miss Mamie B., Martha E. and Marie.—Please send my reply to Mrs. L. E. G. Alabama in these columns. There is no disputing the fact that blackheads are a great trial but daily treatment will finally banish them. Never omit to wash your face, before going to bed at night, with hot, soft water and a complexion brush. Scrub very lightly also the skin will be irritated. After this massage a little boric acid powder into the cuticle and finish by rubbing a tiny bit of cream over the face. Once every seven days, after the nightly washing of the face, steam it over a basin of boiling water for ten minutes, then rinse face in hot water and cover skin with a thick coat of blackhead jelly, recipe for which is given below. Let this remain on for ten minutes, then wash the jelly off and massage face for several minutes. The boric acid powder application can be omitted on this night.

Blackhead Jelly

Pare one cake of Castile soap into three cups of water to which has been added one teaspoonful of powdered borax. Boil until mixture jellies. Put in covered glass jar and use as wanted.

Troubled Lassie, Mary Ann, Lucy R., Katherine and others.—Take one heaping tablespoonful of sulphur, then pour over it one quart of boiling water. Let it stand in an air-tight vessel for twenty-four hours, then drain off the clear portion. Rub into the scalp every night until the dandruff disappears. While treating the scalp for dandruff it is advisable that you be careful what you use for a shampoo. The following liquid is excellent for this purpose, leaving the scalp beautifully clean and the hair fluffy as heart could wish.

Egg Dandruff Shampoo

Yolk of one egg, one pint of hot rain-water, one ounce of rosemary spirits.

Beat the mixture and use it warm, rubbing it well into the scalp and over the hair. Rinse in several waters and sit in the sun until your pretty tresses are free from moisture.

A Beauty Lover, Margaret B., Elsie and Papa's Pet.—To reduce a too large bust, practice the exercise given below. It is claimed that it will reduce the bosom one half in three weeks. Just think of that! Fasten a fully equipped pulley to the wall at a height of about seven or eight feet from the floor. Then, standing with your back to the pulley and about four or five feet away from the wall, grasp the rope ends and allow the pulley weights to pull your hands up and back as far as they will go. Now strike out and down with considerable force, as if you were going to hit someone. Read my reply to Mrs. J. D., New York in these columns.

Mrs. J. D., New York, Miss Ada F., M. L. D., M. S. C. Mrs. O. T. B., Mrs. D. F., Fat Fighter and others.—Take half a pound of epsom salts and dissolve in a pint of rain-water, then shave one and one half bars of the best white kitchen soap and dissolve in half a quart of boiling rain-water. When partially cool, beat in the epsom salt solution. This preparation must be massaged heavily into fleshy parts at night and allowed to dry on the skin. When morning comes, wash it off. Continue treatment until flesh disappears. The average loss in weight per week is two pounds. Twice a week, before taking above treatment, it would be a good idea to immerse body for a few minutes in a tubful of very hot water into which has been thrown half a boxful of ordinary baking soda. When you feel as if you were about to melt away, jump out of the tub and after drying yourself



ONE'S MIRROR MUST BE KEPT IMMACULATELY CLEAN.

hastily, wrap up in a woolen blanket. When you cease perspiring, which may not be for half an hour, dry body and rub in the epsom paste.

Country Girl, Jennie, Little Fairy and others.—I think the following will give desired results:

French Face Bleach

Pure honey, two ounces; bicarbonate of soda, one half ounce; almond oil, one ounce; boric acid, one quarter ounce; distilled water, one ounce, almond meal sufficient to make a thin paste.

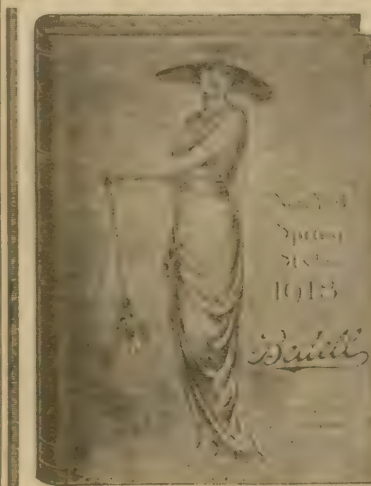
Cover the face with this paste, then don a face mask, which can be made out of thin cheese-cloth, holes being cut for eyes, nose and mouth. After paste has been on the face for several hours, wash it off with olive oil, then bathe the face in quantities of hot, soft water and apply a bland soap. End by massaging the following cream into the skin:

Cotton-seed Cream

Spermaceti, three and one half ounces; white wax, three and one half ounces; cotton-seed oil, fifteen ounces; Oil of lavender flowers, twelve drops; rose water, seven and three quarters ounces.

Heat first three ingredients over a low flame until they mingle smoothly, then remove from stove and add, drop by drop, the rosewater and, last of all, the oil of lavender flowers. Beat with a fork or egg beater until

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cream congeals. This treatment, if taken every third day for two weeks, generally gives one a milky skin.

Mrs. E. M. L.—Use five cent cakes of the soap mentioned by you in your letter.

Mrs. E. M., Ind., Mrs. L. D., E. K., E. B., Michigan, B. F. R., Mrs. O. P. E. K. and others.—Commonly used, peroxide of hydrogen will, if its use be persisted in, utterly destroy the hair. It induces an actual decay of the hair, rendering it brittle and shriveling it up. If one will daily dampen the hair close to the skin for a long period of time—say, eleven or twelve months—the hair roots will be utterly destroyed. This is good news, is it not? Electrolysis is conceded to be a positive cure for extra hairs but these treatments are so expensive that the ordinary woman cannot afford them. The usual charge is five dollars for an hour, a dollar and a quarter for fifteen minutes and two dollars and fifty cents for half an hour. Read my reply to Mrs. J. D., New York, for the rest of the information you seek.

Discouraged No. 1.—When one has an undue fondness for sweets, one generally falls heir to a blotchy skin. If one wishes the unsightly spots to disappear, it will be necessary to blacken hot breads, fried food, gravies, cakes, pies, candy, and greasy meats. Quicker results will be obtained if one is careful to exercise for an hour or two every day in the open air and sleep with the bedroom windows opened wide at night. I advise making a habit of the daily bath, as it is imperative to keep the body and facial skin immaculately clean. In addition to the above, it would be a good idea to coat the blotches several times daily with the following lotion:

Pimple Lotion

Precipitate of sulphur, one dram; glycerine, one dram; tincture of camphor, one dram; rose-water, four ounces.

See my reply to M. L. Salt Lake City in these columns.

Hopeless and Ethel M.—If you covet red cheeks drink two glasses of hot water half an hour before each meal and before going to bed for the next six months.

Mrs. White, Esther, W. W., Miss T. W. R. and Marian.—A simple way of putting on flesh is to take two tablespoonfuls of peanut oil after each meal and before going to bed. This oil is not as unpleasant to take as olive oil. Your druggist will probably not carry this oil but ask him to order it from away for you. It costs fifty cents a pint.

Nose Bleach

Powdered calamine, one dram; zinc oxide, one half dram; glycerine, one half dram; cherry laurel water, four ounces.

Shake bottle before using and mop lotion on nose night and morning.

Dull Eyes, Sweetheart, Molly and others.—Washing the eyes out two or three times each day with a four per cent solution of boric acid will cause them to grow brighter and stronger. I strongly advise you to take this simple eye treatment if you desire the "windows of your soul" to sparkle alluringly. Furthermore, this wash will lessen inflammation of the lids. It will be necessary to use an eyecup when washing out the eye you may spill the liquid over your face. These tiny cups can be purchased at any drug-store for a trifling sum. You should weigh about one hundred and fifteen pounds. See my reply to Country Girl. A good way to fix a reducing chin bandage is to buy some elastic webbing and cut off a strip about eight inches long by two and a half inches wide. Line this with thin rubber sheeting. Now take one side of the unfinished belt and gather slightly midway between ends. Sew narrow strips of garter elastic to the four ends. A night place the strip of elastic webbing under chin with the rubber lining next to skin and the gathered side beneath chin. Pull up the strips of garter elastic until the belt fits snugly and tie or pin the four ends together at the top of the head. If you do not wish to reduce the chin omit the rubber lining.

Eugene M. and Fatty.—Try the following:

Perspiration Powder

Oleate of zinc, one dram; powdered starch, one ounce; salicylic acid, one third dram.

Dust this frequently over affected parts.

Discouraged No. 2., Amy F., Claudine, Miss B. and others.—Here is the astringent formula for which you asked. Into one and one half cups of ice-cold water, put one hundred and forty drops of elder-flower water and six hundred grains of powdered alum. Wet a compress with this liquid and lay it over the skin and press down. Every few minutes dip compress again in astringent and apply all dripping wet to the

skin. Keep this up for half an hour. Take treatment twice a day.

Pomade for Chapped Hands

Cocoa butter, one ounce; oil of sweet almonds, one ounce; oxide of zinc, one dram; borax, one dram; oil of bergamot, six drops.

Heat the cocoa butter and oil of almonds in a porcelain dish and set in boiling-hot water, and when thoroughly blended add the zinc and borax; stir as it cools, and add the bergamot last. Answers to other questions will be found in these columns.

Lots A.—A delightful tooth bleach and one which possesses antiseptic qualities, is made by adding a half teaspoonful of bicarbonate of soda and three drops of oil of cinnamon to a half cupful of warm water. Rinse the mouth out twice daily with this fragrant lotion and you will have white teeth, a fragrant breath, and a clean mouth.

Address all letters containing questions to KATHERINE BOOTH, CARE COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

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BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

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Points in Favor of the Anconas

SINCE the fall shows commenced, I have received a number of letters asking about the new breed of fowl—called Anconas. Feeling that many of our readers must be interested in the subject, I wrote to the Ancona Club, and got them to lend me pictures of the birds, so that you can see exactly what they look like, so far as style and conformation are concerned. The plumage is black and white, evenly mottled, about every third feather being tipped with white. The beak is yellow, with stripes or shadings of black, eyes red, face, comb and wattles, bright red, earlobes, white. Shanks and feet, yellow, but sometimes mottled or shaded with black.

Now to the important question of their practical qualities. They are hardy, active birds, and lay large white eggs. Like the Leghorns, Anconas and Leghorns are two cities in Italy, situated at opposite sides of the country, and the Ancona fowls are as old a breed, if not older, than the Leghorns. It is simply a matter of chance that made the Leghorns the most widely known of the two breeds in this country, where the Anconas have hardly been heard of until the last few seasons. And it is for that reason that many people have conceived the idea that they are a newly manufactured breed. Instead of one of the oldest and most honored in Italy, where they are highly prized for their prolific yield of eggs and wonderful foraging instinct, which makes them almost self supporting, and healthy; and of course their very activity keeps them healthy and in such good condition that it is profitable to keep an Ancona hen through her second and third year, instead of disposing of her at the end of the first year, as one usually does with other breeds when eggs are the first consideration. The Anconas were first introduced into England about 1840. From England they were brought to this country in 1890, but were not generally known until 1905, when they were admitted into the American Standard of Perfection.

The discussion is always going on as to which is the most profitable breed or fowl to keep. As a general purpose bird, I always clung to the White Wyandotte, but for eggs alone, the lighter breeds of the Mediterranean class, like Leghorns, Andalusians, Spanish and Anconas, have always led the race. But aside from market qualities, the highest profits are always realized by the poultry people who are keen enough to follow the trend of popular preference, which is perpetually veering from one variety to another. For of course it is the man or woman who can furnish eggs for hatching from any new favored strain, that gets the fancy prices. For this reason it will pay any live poultry keeper to invest in a few Anconas and do a little advertising, for whilst keeping a few birds from which to sell settings of eggs, you can test out the birds' practical qualities for your own benefit before making any radical change.

One great point in favor of all the light breeds of poultry is their ability to procure the greater part of their food when given free range on a farm, especially in latitudes where the temperature is mild during the greater part of the year. Under any circumstances it must cost less to feed a small fowl than a large one, so even when everything has to be bought the Mediterranean varieties cost less than the heavier American breeds. The general estimate is that it costs from \$1.75 to \$1.85 to feed a large fowl, while \$1.50 is the highest average for Leghorns and such birds.

Leghorns have been acknowledged for many years to be the best layers of white eggs, but now their consorts have outstripped them, and are on good authority, the coming favorites. They are non-setters, and recover quickly from the moult, so there is little or no off season. The Ancona Club has gained a heavy membership during the last two years, and means to do everything to push their birds along to the top, for which reason I advise our poultry folks to get in line to meet the new demand. The Ancona Club and all the recognized breeders in America, have been making such a general outcry against the standard for Anconas published by the Poultry Association in their issue for 1911, the Association has expressed its willingness to revise the standard, and through the agency of the club, and the Ancona World, a magazine devoted to this especial breed, a collection of opinions has been gathered from breeders and judges, which has been formulated into a revised standard for the Association. There may be a few minor changes made in certain unimportant points, but the main points, such as weight, carriage and plumage, will surely be accepted, so I consider it advisable to publish it as it now stands, as a guide for our readers who may be contemplating buying stock for breeding purposes.

Proposed Standard of Perfection for Anconas

Disqualification

Red or straw color in any part of plumage; red in earlobes covering more than one third of surface; shanks other than yellow, or yellow mottled with black; more than two white feathers in each wing, or four white feathers in tail.

Shape of Male

Head—Moderate in length, fairly deep, carried well back.

Beak—Medium length, moderate curve.

Eyes—Medium size, nearly round.

Comb—Single, medium size, straight, upright, firm and even on head; having five or six distinct points deeply separated, and extending well over back of head, not following shape of neck;

Neck—Moderate length, broad, slightly sloping downward from shoulders to center of back, then rising in concave sweep to tail.

Tail—Long, full, well spread, carried at an angle of forty degrees from the horizontal.

Breast—Well rounded, carried well forward.

Body and Fluff—Body moderate length, straight from front to rear. Fluff, short, more developed than in male.

Legs and Toes—Legs medium length, set well apart, shanks clean and slender. Toes, four in number, straight.

Weight—Hen, five pounds, pullet four pounds.

Shape of Female

Head—Moderate in length, fairly deep.

Beak—Medium length, moderate curve.

Eyes—Medium size, nearly round.

Comb—Single, medium size, having five or six points deeply serrated, the front portion of comb to one side, the remainder drooping gradually to one side, fine in texture, free from folds and wrinkles.

Face—Smooth, fine in texture.

Wattles—Medium size, well rounded, smooth.

Earlobes—Oval, smooth, free from folds, fitting closely to head.

Neck—Medium length, slender, gracefully arched.

Wings—Large, well folded.

Back—Moderate length, broad, slightly sloping downward from shoulders to center of back, then rising in concave sweep to tail.

Tail—Long, full, well spread, carried at an angle of forty degrees from the horizontal.

Breast—Well rounded, carried well forward.

Body and Fluff—Body moderate length, straight from front to rear. Fluff, short, more developed than in male.

Legs and Toes—Legs medium length, set well apart, shanks clean and slender. Toes, four in number, straight.

Weight—Hen, five pounds, pullet four pounds.

Correspondence

J. T.—I wish that you would print my letter in the next COMFORT, and, if possible, answer my questions on poultry raising. I had a chicken that seemed well at night, and in the morning when I went to feed the chickens, and went into the coop and saw a chicken lying on the floor. I went near it and it tried to run, so it got out and again fell down, and it seemed to have trouble holding its head up. Then it died after about two hours. Then we opened it, and saw in its food bag about twenty or thirty one-inch long worms; some were alive and others weren't. I wish to find a remedy to cure them some way.

A.—As the worms were in the bird's crop, I imagine that it died from ptomaine poisoning, caused by eating worms from some decayed carcass. In such cases, there is little hope of saving a bird. There are no outward signs of illness until the poison has done its deadly work. A tablespoonful of Castor oil administered when you first notice the bird, might have helped it, but it is very doubtful. The only way to prevent such accidents is to be careful about decaying animal matter. Never allow any to be left around the farm. Even then there is always the danger that fowls may find some dead rat or other small wild animal which has died in the adjoining woods or pastures.

O. F. W.—Have been a subscriber to COMFORT for a good many years and like it fine. I have been having trouble with my turkeys, and as this is my first experience, would like to know what to do for them. One seemed to have something the matter with his digestion. Before the food would pass from his crop,

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Breast—Well rounded, carried well forward.

Body and Fluff—Body of good length, fairly deep, straight from front to rear; fluff, short.

Legs and Toes—Legs, medium length, set well apart; shanks clean and slender. Toes, four in number, straight.

Weight—Cock six pounds, cockerel five pounds.

Shape of Female

Head—Moderate in length, fairly deep.

Beak—Medium length, moderate curve.

Eyes—Medium size, nearly round.

Comb—Single, medium size, having five or six points deeply serrated, the front portion of comb to one side, the remainder drooping gradually to one side, fine in texture, free from folds and wrinkles.

Face—Smooth, fine in texture.

Wattles—Medium size, well rounded, smooth.

Earlobes—Oval, smooth, free from folds, fitting closely to head.

Neck—Medium length, slender, gracefully arched.

Wings—Large, well folded.

Back—Moderate length, broad, slightly sloping downward from shoulders to center of back, then rising in concave sweep to tail.

Tail—Long, full, well spread, carried at an angle of forty degrees from the horizontal.

Breast—Well rounded, carried well forward.

Body and Fluff—Body moderate length, straight from front to rear. Fluff, short, more developed than in male.

Legs and Toes—Legs medium length, set well apart, shanks clean and slender. Toes, four in number, straight.

Weight—Hen, five pounds, pullet four pounds.

Correspondence

J. T.—I wish that you would print my letter in the next COMFORT, and, if possible, answer my questions on poultry raising. I had a chicken that seemed well at night, and in the morning when I went to feed the chickens, and went into the coop and saw a chicken lying on the floor. I went near it and it tried to run, so it got out and again fell down, and it seemed to have trouble holding its head up. Then it died after about two hours. Then we opened it, and saw in its food bag about twenty or thirty one-inch long worms; some were alive and others weren't. I wish to find a remedy to cure them some way.

A.—As the worms were in the bird's crop, I imagine that it died from ptomaine poisoning, caused by eating worms from some decayed carcass. In such cases, there is little hope of saving a bird. There are no outward signs of illness until the poison has done its deadly work. A tablespoonful of Castor oil administered when you first notice the bird, might have helped it, but it is very doubtful. The only way to prevent such accidents is to be careful about decaying animal matter. Never allow any to be left around the farm. Even then there is always the danger that fowls may find some dead rat or other small wild animal which has died in the adjoining woods or pastures.

O. F. W.—Have been a subscriber to COMFORT for a good many years and like it fine. I have been having trouble with my turkeys, and as this is my first experience, would like to know what to do for them. One seemed to have something the matter with his digestion. Before the food would pass from his crop,

It stayed there for about three days, and then he drooped and died. The other one has a swelling on its neck, and is puffed out under the eyes; otherwise he eats and acts all right. What can I do for them? Please answer, and oblige.

A.—Give the cropbound bird a tablespoonful of olive oil, then gently manipulate the crop with your hand. Get someone to hold the bird by the feet, head down, and work the crop from the breastbone down to the throat, in the hope of pushing some of the undigested corn out of the bird's throat. Usually it will eject sour water and much white foam. After a few minutes of such treatment, hold the bird's head up, and pour a cupful of warm water down its throat. Move the crop about for a few moments, and then again turn it head downwards. Repeat the operation two or three times if it seems necessary. After which, give a dose of linseed tea, and keep in a small coop for a few days on very light food. The bird with the swelling under the eyes should be treated for cold. Swab out the nostrils and throat with permanganate of potassium; add one teaspoonful of kerosene oil to every quart of drinking water for the whole flock, to check any danger of infection.

J. E. S.—I am a subscriber to COMFORT, and always like to read the "Poultry Farming for Women," so I will ask a few questions: (1) How long does it take to raise ducks for market when on free range? (2) Would feeding them three times a day be enough? (3) Would bran, corn meal, ground corn and oats be suitable for feed? (4) Would milk take the place of meat and bone meal? (5) When is the best time to sell; when full feathered, or keep them till fall? (6) Is there a market for ducks in summer time? (7) Are ducks for market should weigh from four to six pounds when six weeks old? (8) Yes, feed them three times a day would be sufficient. (9) Yes, (10) Milk would take the place of meat and bone meal in feeding market birds. (11) Yes and (12) They should be marketed from May to July, when they are about six weeks of age, as nothing is gained by keeping ducks after that time.

F. F.—Dear Editor: Will you please tell me through COMFORT what is the matter with my spring chicks and why they died. They seemed all right at first, but they did not grow as they ought to have grown, and now, at selling time in the fall about half of them won't weigh over two pounds, and they have eaten enough to have fattened a duck two or three times their size. They are weak and pale-headed, and some of them have rattling in their throats and sneezing. I have killed two of them lately for the table and they were hardly fit to eat, and I made a thorough examination of the intestines and I found six tapeworms and thirteen wireworms about the size and length of a large darning needle and almost as hard, and sharp at both ends; and the other one—well, I didn't count them, but the intestines were full of them. Tapeworms fast by the little end to the inside of the bowels, anywhere from two to twelve inches long. Now can you please tell me how to get rid of them in my flock without having to dose each bird separately? I have about one hundred hens and pullets that I want to keep next year, and I would like to get them healthy. The pullets don't seem to be as badly affected as the hens. They were all hatched out by the middle of May. They are the Partridge Wyandottes and Black Minorcas mixed. They have had the range of the farm and run with their mothers, and were fed dry chick feed at first; then scratch food, and this fall have had the run of the wheat and oats and corn. I will be grateful for any help; it may do others good that have the same trouble and don't know what to do with it.

A.—Am very much afraid you can't aid the birds except by dosing them individually, and with a hundred birds it

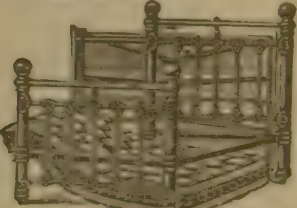
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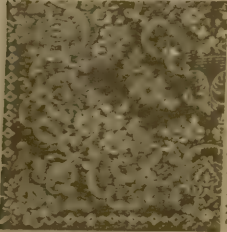


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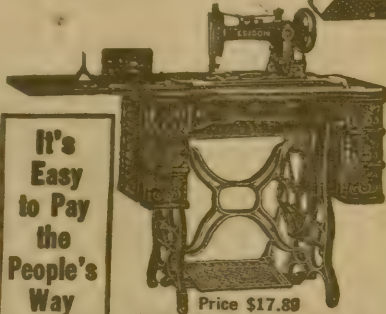
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Faithful Shirley

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

do not wish to see them," retorted the woman irritably. Shirley stood irresolute for a moment. Then looking straight into her companion's eyes she said:

"Madame, I cannot take such a message as that to your caller."

CHAPTER XIX.

SHIRLEY PAYS A VISIT TO IVYHURST.

Madame Marton instantly flew into a passion. "You refuse to obey me!" she angrily cried. "Not in anything that will not violate my conscience," the young girl quietly returned, though she had grown very pale.

"You are here to serve me."

"Yes, in whatever is right."

"And you absolutely refuse to go down and excuse me to Mrs. Sandland?"

"No, I will gladly do that if you desire," said Shirley, looking relieved. "I will say that you do not feel like seeing her today, but I cannot tell her that you are not at home. I cannot speak falsely for anyone," she concluded with quiet decision.

There was a moment of silence. Then madame said, in a terrible voice—terrible because it was so deadly calm from passion:

"You will do as I tell you or—"

"I cannot, even though you send me from you," Shirley reiterated more firmly than before, as she paused, too excited to go on. Then lifting her clear eyes to the angry woman's face she continued, appealingly: "Madame Marton, pray stop and think a moment; do you wish me to tell this—He for you?"

Madame started as the obnoxious word smote her ears, and a flush of shame dyed her face and neck.

She stood as if fascinated by the girl's gaze for a moment, then turning abruptly away she left the room without a word and went downstairs to receive her caller.

Shirley went slowly across the hall to her room, feeling greatly depressed over the recent exciting interview with madame. She was indignant also over the fact that she had been requested to take a message of such a deceptive character to anyone.

"Oh, dear!" she sighed, as she opened the door and her eyes fell upon the pretty new rug, "why must this disagreeable affair happen just after she had been so good to me? If she sends me away—and I will not remain to violate either my conscience or my self-respect—she will feel that her money has been spent for naught."

But however enraged madame might have been at the time of Shirley's refusal to take her false message to Mrs. Sandland, she appeared to have entirely recovered from her violent mood when she met her at dinner-time, and the subject was not referred to by either of them.

This was a source of great wonderment to Shirley, and she was even more astonished when the next morning madame commanded her to get ready early for their shopping expedition to Quebec.

They started forth on the most amicable terms, and Shirley gratefully accepted the situation. Upon arriving at the great carpet store in Quebec a handsome rug was selected for the drawing-room, and then madame decided that

she would have another for the dining-room and a couple for the hall, then some draperies were added to the other purchases, and Shirley, upon making a rude estimate, was amazed to find that the woman had spent more than eighty pounds.

"I hope you will not hold me responsible for having led you into this extravagance," she laughingly remarked, but flushing sensitively when madame called upon her to decide between the patterns of two sets of expensive draperies which were spread out before her.

"You just let me alone," the strange woman retorted sharply, but not ill-naturedly; "I won't have my plans meddled with; my companion, let me tell you, is not going to have the only attractive room in the house."

So Shirley said no more, but though secretly delighted to have these beautiful things added to their home, she hardly knew how to take madame in this unusual mood.

On their return from their expedition Shirley found upon her table a quaintly shaped basket containing a great bunch of long-stemmed roses of various kinds, together with a mass of the largest and most beautiful pansies she had ever seen.

Attached to the handle of the basket there was a card, upon which was simply written, "Compliments of Neil Wallace."

"How kind!" cried the delighted girl, her face all aglow with pleasure, and longing to have someone share it with her she tripped across the hall to madame's room and set the basket on the table before her, hoping that she would enjoy it also.

"Humph!" grunted this peculiar creature, as her glance fell upon the dainty offering and the accompanying card. Then she suddenly checked herself and remarked indulgently: "Well, I won't call them worthless trash, since they make your face shine like that, so take them away to your room, child, and enjoy them to the top of your bent."

Shirley's fair hands fluttered among the bright blossoms for an instant, then selecting the loveliest bud among them all she broke it from its companion, and bending forward deftly pinned it among the folds of the black lace scarf which madame wore before she was aware of her intention.

"It was nothing but a rose I gave her, but its royal heart breathes sweetest savor Of any flower that blows."

quoted Shirley, with a roguish twinkle in her eyes then she caught up her basket and danced out of the room without waiting to notice the effect of her act.

Madame Marton sat looking down upon the flower for several moments, a peculiar expression on her aged face.

"What has come over me?" she muttered at length, while she shrugged her shoulders impatiently. "There is no fool like an old fool," it is said, and I begin to believe it. Yesterday she kissed me, this morning she wheedled me into spending more than eighty pounds, and now she ends by pinning a rose upon my bosom and making a guy of me."

She lifted her hand as if to snatch the gleaming blossom from its place, then slowly let it fall again upon her lap.

"Her fingers put it there, and it would be a pity to hurt her," she mused, "but, Fellow Marton, the world must be coming to an end, or you would never let that chit of a girl rule you so."

She wore the rose down to dinner, and tried not to mind the smirks and smiles which the sight of it caused among the servants; but when she went back to her room again she carefully removed the beautiful bud, and laid it in a tiny box, which she shut away in a bureau drawer, something very like a tender smile wreathing her thin lips while thus engaged.

Truly, for once, the "leopard" seemed likely to "change his spots."

The next few weeks passed very pleasantly to Shirley, or at least they would have been delightful if she had not been secretly anxious over the sudden cessation of Clifton's letters.

She continued to write to him, however, thinking that the fault might be with the mails, but as time passed and she still heard not a word she grew distressed and even alarmed.

It was totally foreign to her nature to be suspicious, and she refused to doubt his fidelity; but she could not understand her lover's long-continued silence, and she would have been something more than human if she had not at last experienced something of wounded feeling and even of indignation over having her many letters ignored.

Thus, after a time, she ceased writing to him, and tried to be contented with her present duties and surroundings, while she could not fail to be interested in the changes going on around her.

Madame Marton, having once instituted a new departure, would not be satisfied with half-doing anything, so made thorough work of beautifying her home.

It was strange to see how she consulted Shirley, and yielded to her on almost all points which required taste and skill in arrangement; and by the end of a month from the next day when the young girl had surprised her with the changes in her own room, the grand old mansion presented a very different appearance from what it had worn when they arrived from New York.

There were bright rugs scattered all about, while rich and beautiful draperies had been hung at the doors and windows.

The pictures also had been rearranged—some of them newly framed—and with a better regard for light and shade. The costly bric-a-brac Shirley disposed of to the best advantage, and the elegant vases were constantly filled with flowers, which shed brightness and fragrance throughout the house.

Many of these came from the conservatories of Lord Wallace, who now scarcely missed a day in sending a fine variety to either madame or her young companion.

He had called at the mansion a few days after his meeting with Shirley in the wood, bringing his mother with him, for he had persuaded her that she owed their neighbor a call, and he wished to meet the young girl who had so charmed him.

While Lady Wallace and madame were renewing their acquaintance—for they had not met for more than two years, except as they passed each other in driving—the young lord devoted himself to the entertainment of Shirley, in whom he appeared to become more and more interested.

After that he made some excuse to come to the mansion almost every day. Sometimes it was to bring madame some choice hothouse fruit or a donation of early garden produce. Again, it would be a new variety of fern, which he had received from abroad, or perhaps a lately blossomed orchid to show to and discuss with Shirley, while it was a source of great delight to him to watch her lovely face glow and sparkle as she received the basket of flowers which he never failed to bring.

About a week after Lady Wallace's call madame and Shirley went to Ivyhurst to return the courtesy of their neighbors, and then our heroine had the much-wished-for opportunity to go through the extensive conservatories, which Lord Wallace had pointed out to her on the day of their first meeting, and which madame had told her were devoted to such noble purposes.

"It is like fairy-land," she breathed, as she stood under the spacious glass dome of the main structure, where great palms towered far above her, and a perfect paradise of choice plants, vines and flowers exhaled their fragrance around her. "And," she added, "the place seems almost sacred to me."

"One might almost charge you with being a devotee of nature after such an extravagant statement," said her companion smiling.

"I am, indeed, very fond of everything that grows," Shirley returned, drawing in a long breath of the perfumed air; "but I was not thinking so much of these rare and beautiful things just then," she concluded, with a sweet, upward glance and a quiver of something like reverence in her tones.

"May I ask of what you were thinking?" Neil inquired.

"Yes," she answered with a blush; "I was thinking of the divine use to which the generous owner of all this beauty devotes it."

The young man's color deepened at this unlooked-for reply.

"I am afraid that someone has been giving the owner more praise than rightly belongs to him," he quietly remarked, after a moment of hesitation. "It is true that I give away nearly all my flowers," he added, "but I fear that I am not so unselfish in the matter as your commendation seemed to imply, for I take the greatest pleasure in floriculture, and, to tell the truth, I do not know what to do with the enormous results, except to send them broadcast among those who love them, but cannot get them in any other way."

"It is certainly a lovely thing to do, and it must require much time, thought and judgment to carry on such a mission," said Shirley. Then she added gravely: "It surely shows a tender sympathy for the poor and those who suffer on the part of the donor."

"Yes, it does take a great deal of time," Lord Wallace answered; "that does not count, however; I believe I am sympathetic too; but," an expression of pain flitting over his face, "it requires suffering to appreciate the sufferings of others, and I believe that I have had my share of that, for I have been called upon to witness the suffering of one who is dearer to me than my own life, Miss Livingstone, and that is a great deal harder than to bear pain oneself."

"That is very true," Shirley returned, "and I suppose I know to what you refer, for, Madame Marton has told me about your dear little child, Lord Wallace."

"Yes, my boy will never walk, he will never be free from pain, and that is a terrible grief to me," the young father said, with a heavy sigh. "Raymond is a very bright child, too. Are you fond of children, Miss Livingstone?" he inquired, with unusual eagerness. "Would you like to come with me to see my little one?"

"Indeed I would," Shirley answered, in a tone that left no doubt regarding her love for children.

Lord Wallace hastily plucked a choice orchid, which gleamed like a bright bird among the dark-green foliage, remarking that "Ray" dearly loved flowers, too, then turning he led the way out of the conservatories.

He conducted his companion toward a beautiful spot where three magnificent beeches cast broad shadows upon the velvet turf, while Shirley caught sight of a gayly-decorated tent, and presently they came upon a white-capped, white-aproned nurse, who was wheeling a costly chair, in which was seated a beautiful but delicate-looking boy with great, pathetic eyes, which almost moved the young girl to tears.

Shirley knew that he was at least five years old, but he looked much younger, although his face was bright and the counterpart of his father's in miniature.

He gave vent to a cry of joy as he caught sight of his visitors, and clasped his little hands gleefully.

"Papa! Papa!" he shouted, "take me, please—take Ray."

With a face of infinite tenderness the young father stooped and lifted his child, kissing him softly on the lips as he did so, while Shirley's

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23.)

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Getting Horses Ready for Spring Work

It is often the owner's fault that his horses do so poorly at spring work. He complains that the teams sweat profusely, blow and pant more than ordinary, and fail to get through the amount of work he thinks they should be able to accomplish. It is not strange that this is the case when we find in very many cases that the winter feeding is continued despite the change of season and temperature and the fact that the horses are shedding their coats. At the season of the year when the animal is shedding it is inclined to be weak and will be more so if corn is used for food. The pores of the skin are in an open state and the blood beginning to circulate much more freely than when idleness was enforced by the lack of work during winter. It is necessary then to keep the bowels open and to assist nature in getting rid of the now superfluous coat of hair and this is done by changing the feed and giving the horse far more grooming than is necessary at any other time. Corn needed in winter to keep the animal warm is not so much needed in spring and should therefore be gradually cut down and oats substituted for it until, when the work starts in earnest in the fields, the horse is getting oats alone or oats along with an occasional bran mash to keep the bowels moving. In addition to this feeding if the horse is slow in casting its winter's coat it may be well to use some simple medicine to help throw off the impurities of the blood and at the same time stimulate the shedding of the hair. For this purpose nothing perhaps is safer or more effective than flowers of sulphur and glauber salts; the former in half ounce doses and the latter in one ounce doses two or three times daily in the feed according to the condition of the animal. At the same time it is important when the horse is upwards of seven years of age to see that the teeth are in good condition, for horses able to eat corn well cannot always masticate oats in the same perfect manner on account of even slight irregularities of the teeth, which are easily set right by judicious use of the dentist's floats and files. Where this feeding and medication is given nothing will save the horse from the overheating which so often attacks the animal that is fed corn after warm weather sets in and it will always be found that horses fed on oats and hay along with occasional mashes of bran will sweat work well and do not suffer from excessive sweating. Such changes however should be made very gradually for the sudden changes of food too often given at this time of year are commonly the cause of disastrous attacks of colic or cause indigestion which is the true explanation of all of the other summer ailments mentioned. As the horse will have gone barefoot during the winter the feet will now require attention and a common mistake is made in at once cutting down the hoof to the size the smith thinks is correct. This sudden change of the bearing surface and size and shape of the foot frequently leads to the annoying habit of interfering and may be prevented by leveling the foot and nailing on a flat shoe that conforms to the shape of the foot even if it does look too wide at the quarters. At this time of year also pare the colt's feet and they will do all the better when the youngster is turned out to grass where they will develop so fast that it is necessary to rasp them into shape at least once every six weeks during the season. If this be not done the feet get out of shape and in fall when the grass is dry and the ground hard the hoofs crack and split severely sometimes laming the animal and often making it impossible to make a sale that could otherwise have been made at a profit. The grass is good for the colt in spring, but it is well to feed additional food to young horses when they are to be early got upon the market.

The Value of Farm Manure

Barnyard manure is the most valuable fertilizer that a farmer can use. Besides supplying all the necessary plant foods its use adds valuable vegetable matter to the soil which keeps the land in good physical condition. By good physical condition we mean several things. In the first place, a soil in good physical condition is easily worked. There are no hard-baked lumps that need to be broken up. Such a soil yields readily to the plow and other cultivating tools and falls away from them in a finely pulverized loamy mass. It does not adhere to the tools. It is soft and mellow. In the second place soil in good physical condition holds moisture well. It does not bake down and develop a hard surface from which the rainfall runs rapidly off, nor does it allow the rain to soak rapidly into the subsoil, but it acts as a sort of sponge taking in water readily and yielding it slowly both to surface evaporation and to under drainage. In the next place a soil in good physical condition drains well,—that is, it does not become waterlogged from excessive moisture but allows both moisture and air to pass through it with comparative ease. When we say that the liberal use of barnyard manure will improve the physical condition of the soil we mean that it will do the things just described for practically all types of soils. To keep the soil in good physical condition is even more important than to keep it supplied with plant food. A rich soil in poor condition cannot be easily worked, bakes in the hot sun, becomes waterlogged from excessive moisture and dries out rapidly in times of drought. For these reasons alone all barnyard manure should be carefully saved and applied to the land.

The Best Time to Apply Manure

As a rule the fresh manure should be hauled directly from the barn to the field, and spread as fast as made. This saves handling and avoids waste. When manure is thrown out in piles and exposed to the rains very much of its fertility is lost in leaching and running off in drainage waters. It is often urged that a load of rotted manure is worth more than a load of fresh manure. This is true but it must be remembered that it takes five or six loads of fresh manure to make one of well rotted manure, hence the fresh manure will go several times as far in improving the physical condition of the soil and the losses already mentioned, which necessarily follow in allowing manure to decay will be avoided. The labor cost of handling fresh manure directly from the barn to the field is almost half that of handling it by the other method. It is loaded once for all and spread directly on the land and the soil gets the benefit of all leaching.

If fields are hilly and steep it is best not to put the manure on until just before turning it under.

Where the manure cannot be hauled directly to the field as made, pile it into large heaps, make them compact, round or rectangular, but with the perpendicular sides at least six feet high, with the center lower than around the outside. Keep the heap compact and moist. This is especially necessary where the heap is formed in a shed. Mixing the manures from several different classes of animals tends to insure moisture of the mass. Unmixed horse manure tends to heat very quickly, waste and form moulds. It always is best to mix cow manure with that of horses for general purposes on a farm. Any dry manure piled outside or under cover is apt to heat. This can be prevented by applying sufficient water to keep it wet, but never enough so that the water runs through into the ground or runs away from the pile carrying with it valuable fertilizing matter in solution.

Another expensive method of handling manure in very common use is that of dumping it in piles to be spread later. This is also a poor method because if the piles are left for any length of time, as they are likely to be, the rain washes out most of the fertility into the soil near the pile and the crop will be spotted in consequence. It is always easily possible in such cases to tell from the appearance of the crop exactly where the piles stood, a condition to be avoided.

Rules for Handling Manure

The best way to handle manure is by the use of the manure spreader. There are many makes of manure spreaders but the "low-down" type is to be preferred. Where the barn is cleaned by the use of a carrier which dumps its load directly into the spreader it doesn't make much difference whether the spreader box be low or high if it is possible to adjust the carrier box so that it will be low. But where the barn is open and the spreader driven into the barn and loaded from the gutter the low down type saves lifting, hence time and labor and for these reasons is the best type to use. Where the barn is cleaned directly into the spreader one handling suffices. When the spreader box is full, whether at the end of a day or of a week, it is hauled directly onto the land and the machine spreads it evenly over the surface—thickly or thinly at the will of the farmer.

Save the Valuable Liquids

As the liquid portion of manure contains valuable fertilizing elements, provision should be made to prevent its loss. There should be water-tight floors and gutters in the stable. Some modern stables have drains connecting with cement tanks, which catch the liquid excreta and the liquid is afterwards pumped back upon the piled manure. On ordinary farms it is more practical to use bedding materials to absorb all of the liquids. Straw or peat moss litter is preferable to planing mill shavings or sawdust for absorbing purposes. Many dairymen now use ground rock phosphate as an absorbent in the stable and this also adds to the fertilizing value of the animal manure. Reinforcing manure with rock phosphate at the rate of forty pounds to the ton and with gypsum at the rate of twenty to forty pounds per ton is advised as sound practice by Prof. Hart, Chemist of the Wisconsin Station, who has been paying particular attention to this subject. These materials can be mixed with the manure at the time of applying it to the land, or in the stable, as above suggested. Sprinkling them in the gutter or on the manure at the rate of one to one and one half pounds per 1000 pounds of animal weight is also advised as good practice.

Supplying Needed Fertilizers

It is needless to repeat that an adequate supply of fertilizing material is absolutely necessary on every farm, if profitable crops are to be produced. The maintenance of a number of animals is necessary for the supplying of fertilizers; but farmers in many of the old districts of the country are now using large quantities of artificial fertilizers yearly. Such fertilizers often are too expensive, figuring on the basis of the fertilizing elements contained. Those who do not care to keep animals must depend entirely upon artificial fertilizers, the growing of clover and other leguminous plants and the turning under of green growths. It is much the better plan, however, to feed cattle, sheep and swine, or one or other of these animals, in addition to the feeding of work horses, and where animals are fed, the buying of feeds not raised on the farm always will add to the store of fertilizing material produced. This phase of the question is not commonly recognized. A ton of bran, or oil meal or oil cake from flaxseed or cotton seed returns a very large per centage in the form of fertilizer for the soil. Not all of the nutrients of such feeds are digested and assimilated, but they pass in the droppings of the animal. The animals when sold, therefore, do not remove from the farm all of the fertilizing elements of the purchased feed stuffs. In a system of grain farming, where the grains are largely sold, these commercial feed stuffs have to be purchased. Any farmer who buys large quantities of concentrates for feeding increases the fertility of his land, provided he takes proper care of the manure. At the Wisconsin Experiment Farm there is a gain every year in fertilizer elements from feeding stuffs purchased, over the losses sustained by the sale of animals and animal products. America exports annually at least 1,000,000 tons of oil cake and the fertilizing values of this tremendous amount of feed material enriches the soil of the foreign farmer, whereas we ought to use it and benefit from it at home.

In purchasing such oil cake or other feeding stuffs, one should always consider its fertilizing value, as well as its feeding value, for while the substance is bought primarily to feed, it is sometimes possible to buy different materials which will serve practically the same as feeds and yet vary greatly in their value as fertilizers. It is, indeed, often wise practice to sell some of the produce of the farm and use the money thus obtained for the purchase of other feeding materials. There is scarcely a farm on which such an exchange could not be made to advantage. The following example, offered by Prof. Hart of the Wisconsin Experiment Station, illustrates clearly the meaning of the above statement. At present it is possible to buy on the local market

6.4 tons of clover hay for the price of 5 tons of timothy hay; and 5 tons of corn can be exchanged for 4.6 tons of wheat bran. Calculating the value of fertilizing material, the results are as follows:

Fertilizing value of 6.4 tons of clover,	\$48.55
Fertilizing value of 4.6 tons of bran,	57.32
Total,	\$105.87
Fertilizing value of 5 tons of timothy,	\$23.00
Fertilizing value of 5 tons of corn,	28.50
Total,	\$51.50
Gain due to exchange,	\$54.37

By simple exchange of products without any cash outlay the fertilizing value of the ration has been increased \$54.37 and consequently the manure produced is worth \$43.49 more than that resulting from the use of corn and timothy hay. The actual feeding value has also been increased, because of the greater amount of protein in both clover and bran, with no decrease but rather an actual gain in the dry matter. This example is offered as a suggestion which may prove of considerable practical value dependent upon the market prices of the various feeds. In this connection it may be added that corn contains but 1.5 per cent. of ash or mineral matter. If animals are fed a well high exclusive ration of corn, the fertilizing value derived from such feed is small and gradually the farm tends to become poor in plant food. In such a case the feeding of bought bran, middlings, shorts, oil meal and other by-product feeding stuffs adds large quantities of mineral matters to the soil and so prevents impoverishment of the land.

Humus in the Soil

What It Is

Humus is the term applied to the partially decomposed organic matter in the soil. Close examination reveals these tiny threads of unrotted vegetable matter. It is black in color, has a somewhat waxy texture and gives this same black color to the soil. Poor or worn-out soils are usually low in humus and gray or colorless in consequence. We associate this black color with a rich soil and its richness is largely due to its abundant stock of humus. Black soils if well drained produce good crops and these good crops are largely due to the abundance of humus to be found in such soils.

What Humus Does for the Soil

Besides furnishing food for plants humus increases the moisture holding capacity of a soil. Hard clays are made up of very fine particles close together. These pack readily, bake and form a hard surface not easily penetrated by the rains. The addition of humus to such a soil, when well worked in, keeps the particles of soil from adhering together in large masses and allows moisture to penetrate it. The water moving downward sucks in the air and gases which it contains which further assist in pulverizing these clays. The persistent addition of vegetable matter to a red or yellow clay will soon change its color to black. Besides humus acts like a sponge to hold moisture against drying out. In the case of sandy particles are so coarse and the spaces between them so large that water falling upon its surface soaks away very rapidly. A sandy soil will not pack down for this reason. Now the waxy nature of the humus helps to assist in the packing of sandy soils, draws the particles close together, lessens the size of the pores and helps to hold the moisture in sandy soils. It may be accepted as a general rule that the addition of humus increases the water-holding capacity of all soils. Since large quantities of water are required for the proper development of crops it is doubly important that the supply of humus be kept up.

How to Put Humus in the Soil

The addition of humus through the application of barnyard manure has been fully discussed in another article. But manure is not always available. There are three other sources of humus, viz., peat or swamp muck, plowing under green crops and growing of crops with large systems of roots.

Where a tract of sandy land lies close to a swampy or peat marsh it is profitable to dig the peat and haul it onto the sandy land, applying it in exactly the same way as barnyard manure is applied. In this way a good catch of clover (or some other crop) may be obtained. This clover when plowed under will add more humus to the soil and will form the basis for further cropping in a well planned rotation. Where a catch of clover can be secured without the direct application of a humus fertilizer, like peat or manure, the sowing of clover will usually be found to be the best method. Some sandy lands grow vetch or cacti without great difficulty and these may well be used for plowing under.

Alfalfa may be grown on some soils that are lacking in humus and when once a good stand of this plant has been secured its roots strike deep into the earth and form a perfect network beneath the surface of the soil. When this crop is plowed up the roots decay and add their supply of humus to the soil.

To sum up: A light colored soil shows a lack of humus. If possible apply barnyard manure. If not, apply peat or muck. If neither is possible, plow under all of the green crop that grows most easily and abundantly on such soils. Establish a rotation that will insure plowing under a green crop every two or three years and such soils will soon show large improvement in yield.

The Questions and Answers constitutes one of the most valuable features of this department and we urge our farmer subscribers to read all of them carefully each month, as you will find that they contain much useful information and advice on practical problems that are troubling you as well as those who have asked the questions. Cut them out and paste them into a scrapbook for future reference. This will save you the trouble of writing us and will avoid delay in getting your answer when you need advice on these same matters. We are glad to receive inquiries from our subscribers and to advise them on all matters pertaining to farming, but it is hardly reasonable to expect us to waste valuable space in answering the same questions month after month for the benefit of those who need not have asked the questions if they had read and remembered the answers which we had previously printed.

Questions and Answers

BITTER MILK.—My five-year-old cow that has been giving milk for about ten months, and will come in fresh again about the middle of May, is now giving bitter milk and cream. I cannot churn butter from the cream which is thick but foams. I warm the cream on the back of the stove two or three times before churning. Do you think her feed is to blame? I only feed her all the Kaffir corn hay she will eat and a big feed of broom corn seed at night. She runs in a field of broom corn and cane stalks and wheat straw, and has salt handy. She gives a small quantity of milk but I get a nice lot of cream from it. Her tests seem to be sore though they are smooth and look all right. L. B. D., Fargo, Okla.

A.—The milk of a cow that has been long "fresh" and is bitter, or bitterness may be due to bacteria, taints acquired in the stable or from bad tasting feed. The feed you are giving can scarcely be expected to properly maintain a milk cow. Very likely, too, it is the cause of all of the troubles you describe. It would be well to keep the cow out of the stalk fields, and feed a proper ration of grain meals and hay. Warm the cream slightly and add a little sour cream to start ripening. It should then churn quickly. Apply simple warm melted lard to the teats.

PRUNING PEACH TREES.—I have fifty very healthy and thrifty two-year-old peach trees that have never been pruned. Please tell me how and when I should prune them. Should I keep the ground worked between the rows? N. O., Camden, Mich.

A.—Prune peach trees in the late winter or early spring. In pruning neglected trees, select from three to five of the strongest branches to form the frame-work of the head. Choose those which are as near the ground as possible, the lower the better, and symmetrically arranged around the stem so that no

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 27.)

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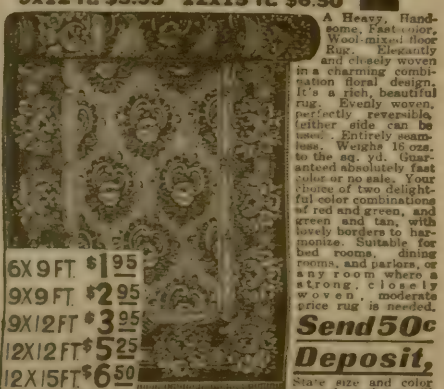
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Kitchen Index to Skillful Methods The A. B. C. to Housekeeping

Alcohol will remove sticky fly paper. Alcohol rinsed over top of jelly before putting on paraffin will prevent mold.

Aluminum kettles are made bright and all stains removed by boiling a solution of borax and water in them and letting it stand some time afterwards.

Ashes will absorb a good deal of heat, so it becomes important to keep the ash pan emptied, the flues to stove brushed out and the top of oven clean. Many a stove and furnace grate are warped and broken by an accumulation of ashes that reaches the grate.

Arrangements for quick warming are always welcome and this is a new one. Take a tin can, unsolder bottom and side to get a flat piece of tin. Cut an inch larger all around than teakettle cover; in the center cut a circle that will let a small flaring sided bowl drop well into. When hot milk or water is wanted, set a bowl into the tin rim over the boiling teakettle and it will be ready shortly.

Air and light are the two important factors in a well-appointed kitchen. An arrangement of either doors or windows, or both, to insure a quick circulation of air in case of burning fat or milk, or other fumes that will carry through the house, is quite necessary. Open up and thoroughly air kitchen after each meal is cooked. Use very light colors; painted walls are sanitary. An attractive, cheerful kitchen lightens labor.

Beef fat used for shortening can scarcely be told from butter in cake.

Brooms will last longer if when new they are soaked in hot salt water.

Broom strands should once a week be tied closely and dipped into hot suds.

Bricks kept on the back of stove are useful to set things on to keep warm in the absence of a hot closet.

Brown bread slowly dried and crisped in oven makes delicious "coffee," pour boiling water over it, cover and let stand in a hot place twenty minutes. Add sugar and cream. Wholesome for children.

Bottles are cleaned by shaking rice and ammonia water in them; or crushed egg shells and water. Strong soap suds is necessary where oil has been used. Vinegar and salt will clean stains from bottles.

Borax is useful in kitchen; it will drive ants from pantry shelf; used with hot soapy water will keep waste pipes clean; a little added to household soap keeps the hands soft; will clean white enamel dishes.

Brushes are a necessity in the kitchen; the five cent vegetable brush for cleaning roots, the worn down whisk brush trimmed even for cleaning sink, the hair brush for stove, the discarded tooth-brushes for silver, lamp burners, etc.

Bean pots as a rule do not receive sufficient care to always insure good flavored beans, after being thoroughly washed, they should be set on stove filled with cold water to which a teaspoonful of soda has been added; cover and let boil a few minutes, pour out water and wipe dry. The surface of bean pots are more or less porous and absorb the juices during long hours of cooking.

Cloves burned on top of stove will kill the odor of onions, cabbage, etc.

Cake is easily removed from tin by setting the pan on a wet towel for a few seconds.

Cabbage shaved very fine is a good substitute for celery in salads; add just before serving.

Covers should always be kept on cooking food; the flavor is retained and things cook quicker.

Cranberries should be kept under water in the cellar, changing water every three or four weeks.

Cracks in stove are mended with a paste made of wood ashes, salt and water. Use on cold stove.

Coal hods last longer if a piece of heavy or corrugated pasteboard is kept in the bottom, cut to fit.

Cork stoppers do the work of scouring kitchen knives far better than a rag and are cleaner to have around.

Celery tops should be saved and dried, put into glass jars and used to flavor stews with when celery is scarce.

China for every-day use can be mended with a mixture of plaster of Paris and unbeaten white of eggs; can be washed.

Chickens singed over burning alcohol will have no root on the flesh. A tablespoonful in a baking powder cover is sufficient.

Caps that fit loosely and entirely cover the hair should be worn in the kitchen; the steam, smoke, fat and dust fade and coarsen the hair.

Cookie cutters in various sizes can be made from tin covers such as come on baking powder and coffee cans. Make several nail holes in each for air.

Chimneys should be washed in clear warm water, stood for a few seconds in a dish of boiling water, when they will wipe dry. Soap turns chimneys a blue color.

Cabbage and cauliflower should be put into plain cold water one hour before cooking to draw out the insects. Never use salted water as the salt kills the insects and they remain in the vegetables.

Coffee cans are commonly used to keep dry groceries in, and often the covers come off with difficulty as many a broken nail will testify. To avoid this, get knobs such as are used on teakettle covers and put into center of can covers.

Casserole cooking is very successful and takes less fuel than kettles on top of stove. Casseroles are usually expensive, but just as good results are obtained with bean pots having close-fitting covers; also the gallon stone jars costing twenty-five cents. Toughest meats are made tender by simmering in the oven.

Discarded fruit jar rubbers are useful in laying on the ice to prevent dishes from slipping that are put there to cool.

Drippings from beef, lamb and chicken can be put together, clarified with thinly sliced raw potato and a little water, and used as lard.

Dish-wipers made from flour sacks are satisfactory; rip apart, shake out all the flour, soak in cold water, wash and then boil in strong soap suds.

Doughnuts if dipped in boiling water an instant as soon as taken from hot fat will not be greasy; it also aids in keeping them fresh, and sugar will better adhere if used.

Egg stains are readily removed from silver by rubbing with table salt.

Emery cloth tacked to a board should hang in the kitchen on which to sharpen knives.

Eggs are easily separated by placing a tunnel in a glass and breaking eggs into it; the white runs through leaving the yolk unbroken.

Eggs beat quicker with a pinch of salt added. Add a teaspoonful of cold water to the white of an egg when beating and it will be more frothy.

Fruit and fruit juices must be cooked in enameled ware.

Fish without ice keep best if wrapped separately in cloth wrung out of cold salted water. Do not lay on each other and keep in a cool place.

Flour should have a cloth cover over the barrel, and on this a fitted wooden one. If there is any danger of dampness from floor, set barrel on blocks as flour should be kept dry and cool.

Frostings that are the most delicious are quite likely to run; to prevent this, put a strip of muslin around edge of cake and high enough to come above frosting; frost and do not remove muslin until frosting is dry.

Flour that is of a good quality will have a yellowish tinge and smell sweet. To determine good bread flour, take a little cold water and work in flour enough to make a stiff dough; if it becomes elastic and holds firm it will make good bread.

Flies, the greatest germ spreader we have, will sometimes get into the kitchen; to exterminate them, in the early morning knock them down with a whisk broom; this does not crush nor always kill them, so they should be picked up and put into the fire or hot water.

Food choppers soon pay for themselves; scraps of meat which otherwise might be thrown away are put through, stewed and served on buttered toast. Dried bread crumbs for dressings, rolling with egg, covering scallops of potato, fish, etc., poultry and fish dressings are quickly made by putting through chopper. Mince meat is no longer a hardship since the chopper came into use. It chops nuts, raisins and fruit. Different sized cutters make it possible to do both fine and coarse cutting.

Glass-topped jars that refuse to open should be placed, tops downward, in a dish of hot water.

Gridle irons should be rubbed with table salt before greasing to prevent cakes from sticking.

Glass-stoppered bottles are sometimes very difficult to open; this is overcome by putting the thinnest coating of white vaseline on the stopper.

Grate cheese for macaroni instead of slicing; the burned part off of toast instead of scraping; the outside of oranges and lemon instead of scraping; chocolate instead of cutting. Saves time and hands.

Glass bottles and jars can be evenly broken without splintering the glass by soaking a good-sized string in turpentine, tying it around glass just where you want it broken, filling vessel with cold water and setting fire to string. A good, clean break will result.

Herbs should be gathered when beginning to blossom. Keep hung in paper bags.

Hot kettles of food that are not to be served the day of cooking should cool with the cover partly off, as otherwise they will sour more quickly.

Hot food should never be put inside of refrigerator; not even on the ice. It creates a moisture that penetrates every part which in time causes a musty odor.

High chairs or stools should be included in the furniture of every kitchen; especially desirable is a stool that will bring one high enough to iron, cook, wash dishes, etc. It's a great saver of strength.

Ice should be chopped in a meal or shorts bag; use wooden mallet or broad side of hatchet.

Iron and steel make desirable cooking utensils because they can take a high temperature without injury. If properly cared for they grow smoother with use.

"IN," cut these two letters from an advertisement and paste on white cardboard to hang on the oven door on baking days, as a reminder that 'tis time to look within.

Ivory handled knives must never be put into hot water. Wash and wipe each knife separately, only using a wet cloth on handles and quickly drying. Otherwise they will crack.

Ice boxes and refrigerators need daily attention if kept in a sanitary condition. See that the outside of dishes are clean and dry before being set on refrigerator shelves. Never put any kind of food, either in or out of papers, directly onto the shelves. A piece of charcoal greatly aids in preserving foods. Once a week thoroughly wash, scald and sun every part possible.

Knives used in the kitchen are cleaned with soda and brick dust; also tin plates.

Kitchen inside window boxes filled with parsley in September will grow all winter and be found indispensable for flavoring and an attractive garnish, as well as giving cheer to the kitchen.

Kitchen linoleum should be washed in lukewarm water, only using a dash of soap on much soiled places; dry and go over with furniture polish made of equal parts of vinegar, turpentine and raw linseed oil.

Kitchen rugs made from old sail cloth or very heavy duck are the best. To make press very smooth and cover with a thick coating of heavy flour paste; dry and give two coats of paint. Will last for years and can be washed with soapy water.

Lamp burners are made clean by boiling twenty minutes in strong soda water.

Lamp wicks will burn evenly if a tiny notch is cut in center after trimming square.

Lemons after being cut may be kept fresh a long time if placed cut side down on paraffin paper.

Leaking pipes may be temporarily mended by applying to the leak a paste made of yellow soap and whiting.

Leaking pans such as are used under the refrigerator or for ice, can be mended with paraffin; pour it in warm, one coat on another until thick enough to hold.

Lettuce as soon as brought into kitchen should be cut apart and put into a pan of cold water; when crisp, rinse thoroughly, lay in a bunch in a heavy, damp towel, roll and put in a cool place. Will keep for days and is dry, ready for use.

Lard-pail teakettle steamers are very useful; punch bottom of pail full of holes and two or three in cover. Inside of this pail fit a smaller one and use over teakettle for small puddings and brown bread, or any steamed article; also useful to warm over food.

Milk readily absorbs flavors and odors, so do not leave it around the kitchen.

Meat should not be washed more than necessary as it tends to destroy the natural flavor.

Mice, too small to get into trap, can be caught on sticky fly paper. Put a piece of cheese in center.

Marbles dropped in kettle of milk, fruit juices, pea soup, etc., will by their constant motion prevent burning.

Mint for cooking purposes may be grown in a glass jar of water in the kitchen window. Instead of changing water add a little fresh each day.

Marble tops from old stands and bureaus make the best kind of kitchen table tops. Bread can be cut on them, meat pounded, used to roll and cut cookies and biscuit on, and particularly a time saver, inasmuch as they are so readily cleaned after vegetable or fruit juices are handled on them.

Molasses jugs should be washed in soap and water, then scalded with soda-water each time they are filled, as there is a tendency to souring with most brands of molasses. To drain jug, first heat through by setting in a pan of hot water, or jug may be set on back of stove if there is no frost in it.

Milk strainers made by using a large-sized embroidery hoop and cheese-cloth are satisfactory. Fold the cloth and when placing in hoops allow it to bag a little. Still better is to place a thin layer of absorbent cotton between thicknesses of cheese-cloth, as is now the custom in scientific dairies. In washing, remove cloth, rinse in cold water, wash with a little tepid water and soap, and scald.

Newspapers wrapped around ice inside of refrigerator will prevent its melting so rapidly.

Newspapers make good pads for the ironing board as well as dining-table; open wide and use thick.

Nutmegs are porous at the small ends; hence

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THE HOUSE FOR MEN AND BOYS.

it is better to begin grating at the larger end and make a small saving.

New tin and iron baking pans should have a thick coating of lard given them, then heated very hot; they will always be smoother and less likely to stick. Drain any lard off the lard, then wash in hot water with little if any soap.

Onions peeled under water will not hurt the eyes. Burn peelings.

Oysters will puff up and be more delicious if a little baking powder is added to flour in which they are rolled.

Oranges will peel easily and at the same time remove the bitter white lining, if soaked five minutes in boiling water.

Oranges bought by the box cost far less than by the dozen, and may be perfectly kept by burying in a box of dry sand. Keep dry.

Old leaky tin dishes make good colanders and strainers; with different sized nails and hammer make holes in bottom and sides; smooth edges by pounding.

Peppermint oil will drive away mice if put around their holes.

Powdered sugar that has become hard should be run through the food chopper.

Pears make an excellent substitute for apples in mincecake. Use a little more vinegar.

Pie-crust scraps made into a ball and submerged in cold water will keep several days.

Paper bags turned over lamps (chimney and all), mean you will always have clean lamps.

Potatoes that are old should be peeled and soaked in cold salted water one hour before cooking.

Potatoes that are old are liable to turn dark when boiled; to prevent this add a tablespoonful of milk to the water.

Potatoes that are old and soggy are greatly improved when mashing by the addition of a teaspoonful of baking powder.

Pie making will consume less time and be more successful if a shaker each of cinnamon, ground nutmeg, salt and cloves are kept on hand; otherwise it is difficult to sprinkle evenly and insure even cooking.

Paraffin taken from jelly need never be wasted. Wash and throw into an old tea or coffee pot. To use, heat and pour from nose. In this way there is always paraffin on hand, and a receptacle for odd bits.

Rice put into the salt shaker will prevent salt from caking.

Raisins are easily stoned if first covered with boiling water and allowed to set twenty minutes.

Rice if good will be whole and clear looking.

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Wash in several cold waters, taking up a handful and rubbing between hands. Rice is very dusty and requires care.

Rubber forefinger and thumb cots should be worn when preparing fruit and vegetables by those who value the appearance of their hands; they are on sale at drug-stores.

Rust on iron sink is readily removed by covering spots thickly with lard and over this put quicklime, letting it stand three hours. Take hot soap suds to wash sink afterwards, using an old whisk broom so not to get hands into quicklime.

Salt and vinegar will remove tea stains from china.

Salt in oven under baking tins will prevent burning.

Soap and water and brisk dry rub is the best treatment for nickel.

Sandpaper will sometimes work wonders on a burned agate surface.

Stewed fruit will take less sugar if a tiny pinch of soda is added while cooking.

Sealing fish is simplified by using a curry comb, hold fish by head and scrape downward.

Salt added to water in which winter beets are boiled in will make them tender and cook quicker.

Sweet potatoes will peel without waste if while baking a dish of boiling water is kept in the oven.

Salt sprinkled over burning food that has boiled over onto stove will prevent smoke from filling house.

Soup that has been salted too much is freshened by dropping in a few thin slices of raw potato; they will absorb the salt.

Sandpaper will often do the work of pliers in removing covers that are screwed on too tight; cut a strip, wind it around once and turn.

Shears are very useful in the kitchen with which to cut raw meat, raisins, trim lettuce leaves, cube celery, cut walnut meats, cut ends of bean pods, etc.

Sweet potatoes can be dried in native climate. Slice thin and string; hang in sun till dry. For use soak in cold water, dry in cloths and fry in deep fat till brown.

Sinks that have rough edges will wear aprons very fast. To prevent this take an old piece of rubber hose length of sink, split entire length and put over edge of sink. Wearing a small oil-cloth apron while washing dishes is another way.

Silver is quickly cleaned with little labor by boiling water, soap and soda; to three quarts of water use three heaping teaspoons of soda and quarter of a bar of soap. Use new tin or agate pan. Dissolve soap in water, add soda, cover and boil silver half an hour.

Tin cracker boxes make excellent cake tins.

Tubers are potatoes, carrots, beets, parsnips, turnips, etc.

Tissue paper will take up surface grease from soups and gravies when there is no time to cool and skim.

Tomatoes that are full grown and just "turning" will ripen and keep for months if wrapped separately in papers. Keep in a cool, dark place.

Tissue paper should be kept hanging in the cookroom. A package of toilet paper is a good arrangement. Use it to grease tins, to take up a drop of spilled stuff, etc., it saves the hands.

Twine is a necessity in the kitchen, and to always have it in place and convenient, hang a medium-sized tunnel, put in a ball of twine saved from packages letting the end extend through the stem.

Teakettles should be washed and dried once a day. Take a white enameled kettle and boil clean water in it for a time and you will be surprised at the deposit on the sides, which clearly demonstrates what is on the inside of a teakettle that is not frequently washed.

Underwear makes the best cleaning and mop cloths; the jersey weave being preferable.

Unslacked lime should be put in cellar at regular intervals, especially if food is kept there, as it sweetens the air and absorbs dampness that in time becomes mould.

Uncovered cake and bread is dry and tasteless. In absence of a cake or bread jar, turn loaves out on a clean board, and when cold cover over with the pan they were baked in.

Vinegar will not mould if a piece of horse-radish root is thrown into it.

Vinegar added to stove polish makes it adhere longer; a few drops to a blacking. Where moisture is necessary use cold tea.

Vinegar will remove the odor of fish or onions from cooking dishes. Put a little in the dishes, let boil a minute and wash out.

Vegetables should be put into a cool place as soon as delivered. To remain in kitchen but a short time dries and wilts them. Unless vegetables can be kept in a bin of earth, they should be hung from cellar ceiling in thin cloth bags.

Wooden ware should be washed with soda-water; teaspoonful of soda to quart of water.

Whipped cream pies can be more attractively served if they are cut before the top layer of cream is put on.

Wooden potato masher or pestle makes quick work of breaking lumpy sugar or salt, and will cream butter and sugar in half the time it does to use a spoon.

Wood ashes are excellent for deodorizing and cleaning iron and tin utensils. Put half a cup of ashes and a pint of water in the dish to be cleaned, let boil fifteen minutes, then scour.

Wood boxes are likely to become catch-alls; remove the temptation with a well-fitting cover and stout pair of hinges. Also put on casters so it may be run into shed for filling instead of lug-ging wood in basket and scattering dust.

Zinc coverings on kitchen cooking and serving boards are superior to oil-cloth; they last forever and can always be made clean and sanitary.

Approved Laundry Methods

Butter is a solvent of many stains.

Ammonia will remove blueberry stains.

Iodine stains are removed with ammonia.

A small amount of lard boiled in starch adds luster.

Cream of tartar, clear cold water, or alcohol will remove grass stains.

Salt added to gasoline used in cleaning will prevent a ring forming around edge of spot.

To remove peach stains, wet in cold water, cover with cream of tartar and lay in sun.

Wash and rinse chamolis skins in lukewarm water, using a little ammonia instead of soap.

Put sweaters, one-piece dresses and union suits on wooden hangers to dry; tying hanger to line.

Black materials that have become gray or rusty can be restored by sponging with alcohol.

When ironing and cooking is combined and the top of your stove is covered, set irons in oven in the hottest place.

Most acid stains causing change of color to colored fabrics can be restored with a weak solution of household ammonia.

Hang heavy-spreads to dry without wringing; the weight of water will cause spreads to dry shapely and require very little ironing.

Where water is taken from faucet on wash-days, have a piece of rubber hose connecting tub with faucet, thus saving much lifting.

Shake out and sort your clothes before taking them to the line in cold weather; the work of hanging will thereby be greatly lessened.

Using too hot an iron on colored cotton materials fades more than either sun or washing. Don't sprinkle too freely, making it necessary to iron too long.

Tar, pitch, mucilage, glue, sticky fly paper, or most any gummy substance is removed by rubbing in fresh lard and washing in hard soap and cold water.

Stocking feet that are stained with leather should have a little borax added to water in which they are washed, tablespoonful to four quarts of water.

In drying woolen scarfs, hoods, etc., never stretch and pin on to line, but with common pins or safety pins, fasten such articles to an old sheet and pin this to line.

Stains caused by scorching should be rubbed with soap then thinly covered with starch and water. Hang in sun. Lemon juice is another agent for removing scorch stains.

Fruit stains are usually removed by pouring boiling water over them. When this fails, use Javelle water (which can be bought at drug-store) or oxalic acid in weak solution.

Much wear is saved table covers and sheets by folding crosswise and pinning the hemmed edges to line. They will stay flat and will not become thin so quickly. Use plenty of clothes pins.

To set colors—blue, lavender, green, aniline reds, pink, and purple should be soaked in alum water, two ounces to the tub. Gray, black and dark blue should be soaked in strong salt water.

Borax water, one heaping tablespoonful to a pail of water, is better for washing white silk gloves and waists than soap. This method also applies to white wool dresses and men's flannel suits.

A thin waist can be hastily ironed if starched in cold starch, laid in several thicknesses of cloth and put through the wringer screwed up tight. This will leave the waist merely damp and ready to iron.

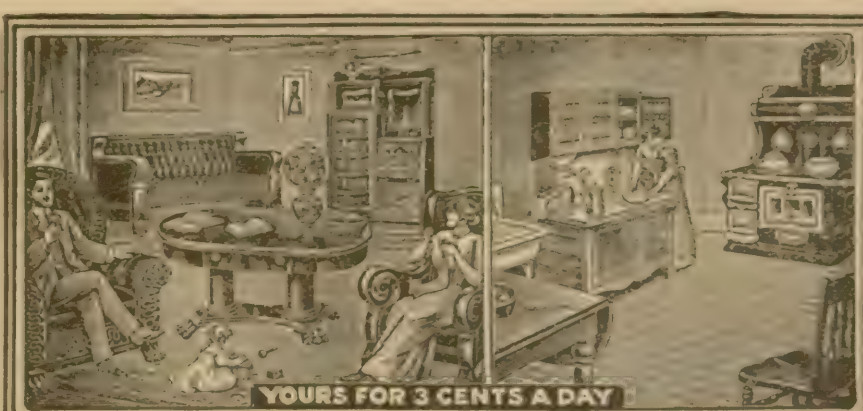
An ironing pad to place around neck and shoulders, or any place where only one thickness should be ironed, is of great help. Make by covering two thicknesses of flannel with two of white cotton cloth.

To remove paint, first soften with an application of lard, let stand a while and rub hard. Wash with cold water and good hard soap, then set to soak in turpentine. It may be necessary to repeat process.

A clothes-pin apron is far better than a bag. Make same as sewing apron only not as deep. Take a piece of denim, turn up one end for the bag part and sew into belt. Fasten with button and buttonhole.

To remove old ink stains in cotton goods, melt tallow and while boiling drop the ink-stained material into it and keep until saturated; then rub with soap until spots evaporate. It may take two treatments.

Rice water is excellent for fine starching, such



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as embroideries, laces, etc. Make by adding a cup of rice to four quarts of water, boil twenty minutes and drain. The rice may be cooked longer for the table.

Collars, cuffs and other small articles are liable to become soiled from either line or clothes-pins while drying, which can be avoided by taking a width of cotton cloth and sewing rows of buttons on it. This is pinned to clothes line and the articles buttoned on. They will dry evenly and save space on line and in cold weather can be buttoned on in house.

Bran water is excellent in which to wash colored embroideries and are cloths, cretonne or other similar materials having colored backgrounds. To make, put two cups of bran into a thin scrim or muslin bag, leaving it very loosely tied to allow swelling of bran. Put into five quarts of cold water, let come to boil and simmer until water feels thick. Bran water cleanses and gives a stiffness like new. Do not use soap.

Soap and powder must be entirely dissolved and added to tub or boiler of water before clothes are added; never sprinkle dry into the boiler just before adding clothes, nor onto the clothes after they are put into boiler, as the two last methods are accountable for the small uneven holes which sometimes appear on clothes. Too much powder and soap will yellow clothes. Rinsing in hot water until every particle of soapy water is removed is one great secret of white clothes.

Finely embroidered bonnets, collars, handkerchiefs, etc., will very little rubbing, and should be put in a two-quart glass jar of warm water to which enough dissolved soap has been added to make a strong suds; let soak several hours, in the sun if possible, then shake hard, which is tiresome and can be done at different times. Remove and rinse in several hot waters, roll in cloth to dry, and iron. If yellow or stained boil after washing in cream of tartar water.

Ideas for the Traveler

Somewhere in your "grip" store a small camel's-hair brush with which to remove a clinder from the eye.

Carry several corks in the traveling bag; they will be found useful to stick the ends of hat pins into; also small scissors.

A small aluminum box such as chewing gum comes in, is light and convenient for carrying safety pins, black and common pins and a paper of mixed needles.

Soak blotting paper in aniline black and paste several sheets together. In this way the traveler can always have ink by tearing off a piece and putting it into a little water.

A hat bag of soft black silk is a necessity in traveling, then the hat can be placed in the rack without fear of injury. From an old silk petticoat such a bag can usually be gotten out.

Make a linen stationery case by cutting an oblong piece and folding the ends over to form two envelopes; one for paper and the other for envelopes. A pretty binding and a monogram will beautify it.

Two children, or two small people, can occupy one berth very comfortably by sleeping in opposite positions. The upper berth, though considered the least desirable by many, is really the most comfortable, as being so near the ventilators the air is much fresher and the jolting less noticeable.

Children are always more or less entertained by looking out of car windows, but at the same time get their hands and faces black from the smoke and cinders. For traveling any distance a mother will find a small soft towel and a rubber bag holding a wet sponge a great comfort and a saving to the little frocks.

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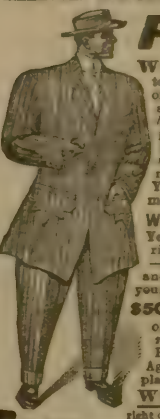
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Creatures of Destiny

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

CHAPTER XX.

LARRY MEETS THE COUNTESS.

Larry woke with a sense of happiness which was strange in a man who had been robbed of all his worldly goods, and with little or no prospect of recovering them; he was puzzled, at first; but suddenly there flashed upon him the fact of his strange meeting with Lady Marie the previous night, and the stranger and more satisfactory fact that he was to meet her again; and he understood why he had started from sleep with a heart bright with a vague joy and delight.

He wandered about the valley during the morning; but long before midday he was at the bridge, waiting; and presently he saw her come riding along the winding road, and his heart went out to meet her.

In his eyes she seemed more beautiful than yesterday; and as he stood watching her, he knew why, through all the past years, no other woman had possessed any charm for him. The girl, Lady Marie, had held his heart in the hollow of her hand; and the woman, Lady Marie, still held it.

"Well?" she said, in a low but glad voice. "You are punctual, Larry." She herself was punctual.

He nodded as he stood bareheaded to take her horse.

"Yes; I was half afraid that I was dreaming last night, and that you would not turn up this morning, and so prove that you were only a vision. I'll take the horse to the inn stable."

"No," she said. She had been looking at him sideways and curiously; but she drew a breath of relief as he spoke; it was evident that he had not learned that she and the Countess of Normandy were one. She wanted to warn the people at the inn to keep her secret.

The people of Normandy are quick, and a word or two sufficed; she came out with her usual calm, serene smile.

"Let us go for a walk," she said; "as far as the woods, at any rate. Don't they remind you of Ravenford?" she asked, as they sauntered down the aisles of the tall firs.

"Yes," said Larry.

"You must be dying to get there," she suggested; "and must be impatient of the delay. I wish the countess were here for you to see her."

"Well—yes," he said, but not very heartily.

"It's a nuisance, but—he stopped, feeling mean, and guilty of disloyalty to the marquis—"but it can't be helped."

"She'll return in a day or two; meanwhile, I must do my best to amuse you, and make you forget your wasted time. It is only fair, Larry; you had to amuse me in the old days. Let us sit down."

She seated herself on a felled fir, and, patting it, invited him to take his place beside her; but he sank onto the soft bed of fir cones and needles, and leaned against the tree. She could see his face; but he had to turn to her and she knew that it was as well; for every moment her presence made him wild with a desire to cry: "I love you! I love you!" And he knew that if he did so she would rise, and, after crushing him with a look, walk proudly past him.

"I have been thinking of the things you told me last night, Larry," she said casually. "And I've got them muddled up. Tell me again."

"Oh!" said Larry, who hated talking of himself and his own doings. "Well, they weren't worth remembering."

"That's for me to decide," she said, with a short laugh.

"Where shall I begin?" he asked, resignedly.

"From the beginning," she responded promptly.

"Oh, we can skip that, surely," he pleaded.

"Skip nothing, please," she said firmly; and he began the story again reluctantly; and she listened even more intently than she had listened last night; for then her brain was confused and her spirit overwhelmed by the suddenness, the strangeness of their meeting; and now every now and then she exclaimed at some adventure, or murmured sympathetically: "Oh, Larry!" at some of the dangers which he had escaped, often enough by the skin of his teeth.

"I like that man, Spon, your partner," she said, with quiet enthusiasm.

"Yes; he's straight, is Spon," said Larry. "So's

the other, Hepburn, for that matter; but of course he's not such a friend, such a pal, as Spon.

"And you three men lived on the side of that mountain, away from the rest of the world, all alone; and 'did for yourselves,' as they say—cooked, and all that? How strange—and uncomfortable it sounds!"

"Oh, it was comfortable enough," said Larry.

"Of course there was Hepburn's daughter."

Lady Marie was picking a leaf of bracken to pieces, and her white fingers stopped suddenly, and she looked down at him and then straight before her.

"Oh!" she dryly remarked. "You didn't mention her last night, Larry."

"Didn't I?" he said indifferently. "I must have forgotten to do so."

"That is rather strange, isn't it?" she observed.

"To forget one out of four persons living there! What is she like—how old is she?"

"Old? Oh, quite young!"

"Do you mean that she is a baby in long clothes?" demanded Lady Marie, with the feminine suavity which indicates danger.

"No, no; she's—she's a girl; grown up, of course."

"I don't admit the 'of course,'" she retorted, with a laugh that did not ring quite true. "And what is she like?"

Larry took off his hat and rumbled his hair; how dark and soft it was; almost as silky as her own, she thought; and how nicely it waved. Yes, he had grown very good-looking; but, then, how handsome a boy he had been!

"What was she like?" he responded, in a kind of desperation. "I don't know."

"You don't know! Oh, Larry!" she chided incredulously. "Remember, there were only four of you! You can't have forgotten! Was she dark, for instance?"

"No," he said. "Fair, very fair. Yellow hair and blue eyes—I think they're blue."

She laughed, this time with more freedom and sincerity.

"You only think! How complimentary to Miss Hepburn, isn't it?"

"Right the first time," he assented.

"And she is pretty?"

"Pretty?" he repeated carelessly. "Yes, I suppose she was what you'd call pretty; but she is not my style. Everyone to her taste."

"In-deed!" she said, with a smile; and the radiance was breaking out in it again. "And may one presume to ask your highness what style you honor with your royal favor?"

He cast a glance up at the lovely, mocking face above him; and his face went pale, and his nostrils contracted.

"If you want to know," he began.

"Oh, I'm not very curious; but still, you're so critical—"

"The kind of woman—girl—I like has dark hair; nearly black in some lights, with dark eyes that look sometimes like velvet, and at others shine like a—jewel; that's when she's feeling proud, and treats the world under her little feet; with a mouth that's neither too big nor too small, but has a curve in the lips; and a complexion that's pale rather than red, like—like old ivory, you know; and—his glance went to her hands—"small hands, with taper fingers—"

"Oh, you're describing a wax figure; a figure in a hairdresser's window—"

"No, no, I'm not," he said coolly, though his heart was beating fast. "I've seen that kind of girl; just that kind. I can see her now—"

"In your mind's eye, Horatio!" she put in. There was a flush on her face, and the dark eyes were like velvet as they glanced down at him and then swiftly away again. "Oh, how hungry I am! Aren't you, Larry?"

"I am," he said. "I've not got quite used to the pleasing but unsustaining roll and butter for breakfast. Let us go and get something in the inn. Hold on! I'll tell them to bring it out under the trees."

It was just as he used to speak in the old days; and that "Hold on!" awoke a delicious echo in Lady Marie's heart.

He strode off to the inn, and presently reappeared with a flagon of wine and some fruit, and was followed by a smiling maid "bearing dishes," as they say in the stage directions; indeed, when the lunch was spread on the snowy cloth under the trees, and they sat down to it, the whole affair looked like one of those stage pictures with which we are all pleasurably familiar.

They were both young and in aggressively robust health; and they ate with an enjoyment which was heightened by the fact that they were together—alone together—and the circumstances of the feast.

"It's like a picnic; I love eating my meals in the open air," she remarked.

"Can't say I do as a rule," said Larry. "Had too much of it, I suppose. But this is all right. Let me give you some more wine—and some of these nectarines."

"Is the wine strong, do you think?" she asked.

"Not a bit," he assured her. "They actually make it here from grapes. It looks excellent—"

"Why, you haven't had any!" she exclaimed.

"The girl brought only one glass," he explained casually. "I'm not thirsty. I'll wait till you've finished."

"Then I have," she said; "how will you wash the glass? Oh, I'll rinse it out and wipe it."

"Oh, don't trouble," he said; and he took it from her and filled it. "We used to drink out of the same water bottle—"

She had flushed slightly as she had watched him, and she laughed now, a little fluttering laugh.

"We were only boy and girl, then," she said demurely.

"That's true," he admitted. "I wish we were now. I wish that were the sea out there, and the boat were lying at anchor—What's become of her?"

"Oh, I don't know," she replied, with overdone indifference. "Ah! yes, I remember; I told them to take her up to one of the outhouses."

"That was kind of you," he said. "She must be fonder by this time; but I'm glad you thought of her, Lady Marie. It was like you."

"I had her painted—I believe," she said.

"No! Really?" he exclaimed, with evident pleasure. "The old boat?"

There was silence for a little while. They both seemed to be musing over the past. It was Marie who spoke first.

"Are you not going to smoke?"

"May I?" He brought out his well-worn briar and lit up; and they talked in snatches, with pauses in between; as very old friends—or lovers—may do.

Every now and then Marie found herself humming softly; now an air from one of the operas, now a ballad; and he listened with half-closed eyes, but all his senses awake.

"You used to sing that in the boat," he said, more to himself than to her.

"Did I?" she said, with a little start. "Yes; I remember."

"I've thought of it often—the song, I mean," he went on in the same self-musing tone. "On board the wreck, when I thought Spon and I were going down with her; and once in a fight in New Orleans when a man's knife got home in my ribs—"

She shuddered.

"Do you remember that man who nearly stole my diamond ornament?" she said. "He tried to stab you; the knife—"

"I've got it still," he said. "It's been very useful at times."

"How he must have hated you, borne you a grudge, for balking him that night, to lie in wait for you and kidnap you, Larry!"

He nodded. "Yes, the Snapper, as he called himself, belonged to the tribe that bears malice and keeps it warm for some time; while life lasts, in fact. He was a gypsy, I've met 'em in all parts of the world, and they're all alike; all quick to take offense and slow to forgive."

"Didn't you say that it was an old man who robbed you?" she asked.

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"Yes, I believe so; but you don't think"—with a laugh—"that there is any connection between him and the Snapper, Lady Marie?"

"No," she said slowly; "that would be carrying the theory of coincidence too far."

"I don't know," he observed musingly. "The arm of coincidence is as long in life as it is in fiction; longer."

He changed the subject, as he could not very well speak in detail of the robbery without mentioning the marquis' share in the incident; and Belmayne had charged him to keep silence upon it. Thinking of the marquis reminded Larry of his mission, which, somehow, he was always tempted to forget in Lady Marie's presence.

"Any news of your friend yet, Lady Marie?" he asked.

"My friend?" She looked down at him with surprise. "The Countess of Normandy?"

"Oh!—the countess? No—no," she rejoined quickly but easily, and with a swift evasion of his upward glance. "But we shall hear of her presently, no doubt; she will let us know when she is going to return."

"I hope she won't be long," said Larry, but not very ardently. Then, ashamed of his lukewarmness, he added: "I want to get to Ravenford and Reuben. I suppose you will be going home presently, Lady Marie?"

"Not—not immediately," she replied, with downcast eyes.

"I thought if you were, you would let me escort you home—help you—"

"That's very kind of you. I should be delighted, Larry; but—no, I'm not going back just yet." She was silent a moment, then she asked with what seemed to him a strange hesitation: "Shall you be writing to Reuben?"

"Well, I might," he replied, with a frown.

"But I didn't want to. You see, I thought I should be there long before this."

"I understand. If—if you are writing, please do not mention that you have met me here. Don't ask why; I couldn't tell you."

"That's all right," he assented. "No, I won't mention it; in fact, I won't write. I shall be there directly."

She looked relieved, he thought, and he wondered why.

Again there followed a silence which to neither of them was awkward or embarrassing. Marie leaned back against a fir, with her hands loosely clasped in her lap, her eyes fixed with dreamy content on the view; and Larry lay on his elbow smoking placidly, and with an ease of heart—and yet with a kind of wistfulness—that came of her nearness.

Near, and yet so far from him! For he did not forget for a moment that she was Lady Marie, of Castle Raven, and that he was Larry Harding, or Darnley, the—adventurer. Yes, that described him exactly; he was simply an adventurer; and it was just her natural kindness which permitted him to sit near her, to eat his lunch with her, and caused her to treat him as if he were an old friend and equal.

And she? For the first time—for how long?—her vague dissatisfaction and restlessness which had become habitual to her slipped from her, as the mists slid from the hills above the valley; and her whole being was suffused with a sense of peace and happiness; she felt as if his near presence had the power to still the dull aching of her heart; as if she were protected against herself by his proximity. She felt as if she were leaning against a great rock far above the tide of vexatious thought, of caring care, in which she had for so long been struggling. Strength, physical and mental—the strength of self-reliance—seemed to emanate from him and envelop her in its inducement.

"We mustn't sit here all day," she said at last.

"It's a very good place to sit," he remarked, casting an approving eye along the valley. "If I were a millionaire,"—he stifled a sigh—"I'd buy it."

"You couldn't," she said unthinkingly. "It isn't for sale. I mean that it belongs to the countess; and she wouldn't sell it. She's very fond of the place."

"Then I wonder she doesn't stop here," he said rather resentfully. "I suppose she is in Paris with the other fine ladies. It's a singular thing, but I believe that whenever it's particularly fine and warm, fashionable people always rush to London or Paris and stew. I beg your pardon, I forgot you were a great lady, Lady Marie; she hastened to apologize.

"Oh, I'm not particularly fashionable," said Marie quite calmly. "And I'm not fond of big and crowded cities; in fact, I like being alone."

He smiled and rose.

"Is that a kind of hint?—as the man said when another fellow knocked him down."

She laughed.

"You know I didn't mean it, Larry. Let us stroll up the valley."

They walked side by side, chatting now and then, but more often silent; and presently at a turn of the twisting and winding road they came in sight of the house perched on the hill.

"That's Normandy, I suppose," he said. "It's a grand place. I wonder the countess can leave it."

"So do I," said Marie dryly. "Yes; it's a beautiful old place. You must ask the countess to show it to you when she comes back. Of course, being only a guest, I can't ask you—"

"Oh, I know," he said, with a nod.

As they stood looking at the great house, a gardener or laborer came down the hill, and at sight of Marie took off his cap and stood with bent head. Lady Marie turned quickly.

"Let us go back," she said. "I must get my horse and be going home."

They sauntered back very slowly, and were more silent than before. Larry brought the horse to her, and put her in the saddle and walked beside her, his hand on the horse's mane. He was loath to part with her; for he knew that the brightness of the day would be gone for him; that there would come upon him the craving for her society, the aching desire to be near her, to look upon the beautiful face, to hear the voice that had remained with him all through the past years.

"I—I suppose you will not be coming this way tomorrow, Lady Marie?" he said; and she did not know how wistful, how eager his voice was under its assumption of casualness.

"Oh, tomorrow? Yes; I may."

"I hope so," he said, with a sudden flash of

his eyes up at her. "You see, the countess may be back at any moment, as you say, and I should have to go—"

"Well, I'll come tomorrow," she said. "Good by till then."

She had not told him the time at which he might expect her; but at midday he was at the bridge again, and a little later he saw her driving a pony in her spruce little governess cart; the jingle, as it is called.

"I thought you'd like to go for a drive," she said, as she nodded brightly to him. "You must be tired of sauntering about the valley."

"Thank you, I'd like the drive; but I'm not tired of wandering round here." He was looking at her with the intent yet dreamy gaze with which the man notes the appearance, the dress of the woman he loves. She wore the simplest of frocks; and a red tam-o'-shanter, under which her soft, black hair was bound in silky coils, with stray little tresses blown loose by the light breeze; her eyes were bright, her scarlet lips parted slightly with that hint of a smile which a woman's lips wear when she is happy. She seemed to him the incarnation of perfect girlhood; a goddess clothed in humanity for the torturing of the poor wretch who dared to lift his eyes to her with mortal love.

Her eyes fell before his half-unconscious gaze; and he glanced at the pony and cart.

"An English cart," he said, with faint surprise. "And, yes, that's an Exmoor pony! Strange to see 'em out here in the heart of France."

Marie bent to open the tiny door of the vehicle.

"Will you get in? Yes, the countess is rather fond of English things."

"She's right," he said as he got in. "There's nothing to beat an Exmoor, is there? And this is a good one; a very good one," he added, as the fiery little animal, which had been turning its head and pawing the ground impatiently, sprang forward. "Shall I drive? You can hold him?"

"Oh, yes," replied Marie, with a laugh. "Don't you remember I used to drive the Black Prince when I was quite a girl?"

Larry nodded. How often had it been "Don't you remember?" between them since they had met?

"Yes; but this little beast is stronger, and has a bit of a temper, hasn't he?"

"Yes, a little; but he's not nearly so bad as he was last year, when I brought him over."

"Oh?" said Larry, with surprise. "You brought him over? You were here last year?"

Marie took out the whip.

"Oh, the lash is all entangled; will you undo it? Thank you. Yes, I was here, on a visit, last

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 33.)

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Home Dressmaking Hints

Spring Fashions

By Geneva Gladding



THE fashions this year seem especially designed for the woman who does her own sewing and must make the most of every dollar in her purse.

To begin with waists, the set-in sleeve with large or dropped armhole, and the sleeve and waist cut in one are all seen in the new models. Deep collars, both round and pointed necks, long and short sleeves are worn, making it an easy matter to convert last year's clothes into stylish spring costumes. Frills of linen, lace and silk are worn around collarless necks, carried down the front and form a finish to sleeves. In case of long sleeves the frill falls well over the hand.

Skirts show the same narrow effects, but increased width is given to many by introducing plaits under seams and in side clusters for convenience

in walking as well as for stout people who find too narrow a skirt trying. The slightly raised and regulation waistline will share in popularity, there being no change in this fashion.

To insure a stylish skirt it must hang perfectly around the feet. To best accomplish this, finish every part of the skirt except turning or facing around bottom, even to hook and eye on belt. Put it on and smooth to evenness, and if to be measured from floor up to bottom of skirt, pile up books until the desired height is reached and then put in plus at this point. Many prefer not to do any turning with skirt on, but to mark all around at turning point, then remove skirt and lay hem. Another method is to take a yard stick, put one end on the floor and make a mark in skirt at the point where top end touches. In this way go all around skirt, and at a point in front make a mark where you wish hem turned. Remove skirt and get distance between top and lower mark and measure around entire skirt and then proceed to hem. Many hang their own skirts in this way.

Pattern Descriptions

Nos. 6021 and 6023 give one of the latest models in shirt-waist costumes. The waist has the front and collar in one and the sleeves may be long or short. As shown in large cut, the opening is slightly diagonal to the waistline where it meets the skirt opening. The collar spreads at throat, forming a narrow V effect, one of the attractive features of the waist. The sleeves are set in plain and finished with a narrow pointed cuff.

No. 6021 is cut in sizes 34 to 42 inches bust measure; medium size requires one and three quarters yards of 44-inch material; if collar and cuffs are made of contrasting color, three quarters yard of 24-inch will be needed. Price, 10 cents.

Skirt model No. 6023 which is shown with waist No. 6021 makes a charming combination. It is cut in a five-gored design with the closing at front. The waistline may be finished Empire as shown in large cut, or regulation as shown in small one. A broad box plait forms the back gore providing ample width for comfortable walking.

Cut in sizes 22 to 30 inches waist measure; medium size requires two and seven eighths yards of 44-inch material. Price, 10 cents.

No. 6065—Children's Dress. This design is very smart and easily made, one that will be welcomed by mothers. The dress fastens at the side of front and has a dainty two-piece skirt. The neck is collarless and the sleeves may be long or short. The cuffs and belt are fashioned of contrasting material which gives the frock a pleasing trimming touch. Blue plaid gingham with plain blue and pearl buttons makes a pretty combination.

Cut in sizes four to 10 years; medium size requires two and five eighths yards of 36-inch material and three eighths yard of 27-inch for belt and cuffs. Price, 10 cents.

No. 4842—A very satisfactory style of romper.

Mothers who make rompers for their children know all their advantages of saving in dresses, underwear and washing. And more, since this garment has been so universally adopted, it looks wonderfully appropriate and sensible.

In this model the front of waist and front and back of drawers are cut in one piece with a seam down the center, and the drawers close across the back, fastened to the waist by the buttoned belt. Rompers should be very loose and straight as freedom of motion is one of their chief purposes. Most mothers prefer the collarless neck finished with a piping or faced and finished with a line of feather stitching.

Cut in sizes two, four and six years; four-year size requires two and three eighths yards of 27-inch material. Price, 10 cents.

No. 5002—Ladies' Dress. Having sleeves set in to large armholes. The skirt is three-piece. It has the fashionable and convenient front closing. As illustrated the front and cuff bands are trimmed with a narrow frill and cuff bands are a lace collar. A soft girdle or stitched belt can

be worn. Fine all-over embroidery edged with lace make handsome collars of this type.

Cut in sizes 32 to 42 inches bust measure; medium size requires four and three quarters yards of 36-inch material, and two and three eighths yards of plaiting. Price, 10 cents.

No. 4715—Ladies' Kimono in a very practical design. Both a round and square collar are included; or the neck is perforated to be cut as shown in illustration. Flowing or Bishop sleeves can be made. Flanellette, thin Turkish toweling, silk and crepe are good kimono materials.

Cut in sizes 32 to 44 inches bust measure; medium size requires seven and three eighths yard of 36-inch material, and one yard for bands. Price, 10 cents.

No. 5408—Ladies' Skirt. This four-gored model

is very simple to make and is very useful as a suit skirt, or to wear with skirt or Norfolk waists. Closing is at left side of back.

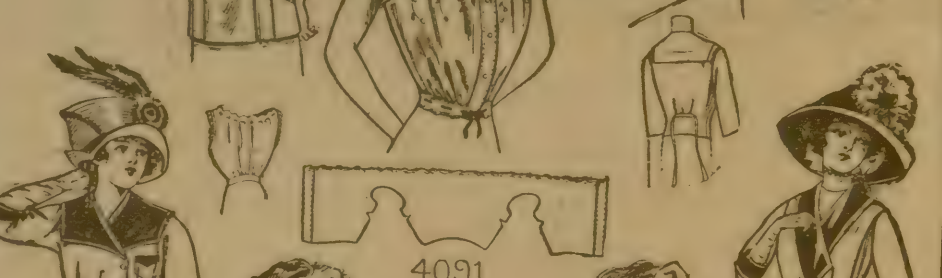
Cut in sizes 22 to 30 inches waist measure; medium size requires four yards of 36-inch material. Price, 10 cents.

No. 5480—Ladies' Skirt. One of the new models with side plaits introduced; also shallow plaits under front and back gores. To be worn as separate or suit skirt and can be made of either heavy or summer materials.

Cut in sizes 22 to 32 inches waist measure; medium size requires three and one eighth yards of 50-inch material. Price, 10 cents.

No. 4091—The Corset Cover made of flouncing

has become so popular that a few words of explanation in regard to making it are timely. It is



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President Wilson's Inauguration

Unique Features Which Make It Most Imposing

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PRESIDENT WOODROW WILSON

IF all the inaugurations that have been held since George Washington took the oath of office as first President of the United States, that of Woodrow Wilson, the twenty-eighth executive to be chosen by the Republic, is to be the greatest, the most largely attended and at the same time the most dignified that the history of our country has yet known. At least such is the decision of the General Inaugural Committee after a careful consideration of the plea of Gov. Wilson for a simple ceremony and the demand of the rest of the Democrats of the country for a show that will make the oldest inhabitants sit up and take notice. The President-elect if he had his way, would assume the highest office in the land with no more ceremony than was shown by Thomas Jefferson. He would be willing to ride alone to the Capitol, take the oath in the presence of the Senate and the House, as representatives of the entire country, and then return quietly to the White House to take up his four year task. But that would never suit the party that elected him.

"The thing has been overdone in the past," said the President-elect to William Corcoran Eustis, chairman of the inaugural committee recently. "I wish you would have the ceremonies as simple as may be consistent with dignity and order."

Chairman McCombs of the Democratic National Committee, came to Washington with the same plea:—"Governor Wilson is a plain man and has no desire for any great display," he said. But Mr. McCombs was taken into the private office of Chairman Eustis and the utter impossibility of acceding to the wishes of his chief was urged. He saw the point and partially surrendered, contenting himself with the request that simplicity be attained wherever possible and that no additional features be arranged.

Inaugural Ball to be Omitted

Therefore on March 4th, much of the same old show will be repeated. But there will be some important changes. Chief of these is the giving up, practically at the order of President-elect Wilson, of the inaugural ball. The committee was dismayed when it was learned that Mr. Wilson was distinctly not in favor of such a function and there was some indecision as to what the procedure should be. There was the chance that if plans for the ball went ahead, President and his family would refuse to attend, and such an embarrassing result the inaugural committee could not risk. So the project of the ball has been abandoned.

Some of the plans are still in a somewhat confused state. Mr. Wilson has suggested a public reception, to be held in the rotunda of the Capitol, as a substitute for the inaugural ball. The President-elect stipulated, in offering the suggestion, that it should be understood that Mrs. Wilson and her daughters would not be called upon to participate in the reception. This in itself would be a departure from custom, for the ladies of the White House have, in past administrations, been as prominent in the official social functions as has the President himself.

The secret service officers, who are responsible for the President's personal safety, do not approve of the proposed public reception, especially if it is to be made a "hand-shaking" affair. Usually the President of the United States is exhausted at the end of New Year's day receptions at the White House when he receives and greets personally between 5,000 and 6,000 persons. The secret service men believe that a public reception at the Capitol on the night of the inauguration would draw such a throng that hand-shaking will be out of the question. And this, too, the presence of murderous cranks in such a crowd, from whom it would be difficult to protect the President. The question of the reception is entirely in the hands of Congress, but it is probable that, in view of the assassination of President McKinley at a public hand-shaking, the proposed reception will not take place.

For the rest of the ceremonies, the customary procedure will be followed. The retiring and incoming Chief Executives will be escorted from the White House to the Capitol; the new President will be sworn in with all the pomp and dignity that the highest officials of the land can lend to such an occasion; military and civic bodies from all over the United States will follow him in procession down Pennsylvania Avenue, to be reviewed by him in front of the White House; and at the end of the day there will be the customary display of fireworks in the White House lot—and possibly, though probably not, the reception later in the evening at the Capitol. The inauguration of President Wilson will be unique in two other particulars. It will probably be the last one to be held on March 4th and the first to be signalized by a parade of marching women. A strong sentiment is crystallizing in Congress to change the date of the inaugural day to the last Thursday in April. Almost without exception March 4th in inaugural years has produced about the worst brand of weather of which it is possible to conceive. No one who witnessed Mr. Taft's induction into office in 1909 will ever forget that day. The storm of snow, sleet and wind which swept over the country from New York to South Carolina blocked railroad traffic so that many military organizations and thousands of visitors were unable to reach the national capital in time for the ceremonies.

Woman Suffrage Army a New Feature

As for the women, the Suffragists of the country have seized upon Mr. Wilson's inaugural not

only as a chance to show their support of him as would-be, and in some cases actual, voters but as a means to exploit their cause. They plan to descend on Washington by the hundred and their banners bearing the "Votes for Women" slogan will wave in every breeze. In fact it is the women who will really start the proceedings for their plan is to have a separate parade of their own on the day before the inauguration. As one of their leaders expressed it, "The cause is too big to play second fiddle even to the President of the United States. Therefore we will not march in the inaugural procession."

There's another reason too why the women wish to have their demonstration separate. They feel that the customary inaugural parade is technically an escort for the new President and naturally both political and partisan. As such they believe it would not be so universally representative of the woman idea, would not attract as great attention as they desire from the great crowds to impress upon the visitors the strength and progress of the suffrage movement. Above all things, the women wish it understood that their parade will be absolutely dignified and will in no way detract from the simplicity requested by Gov. Wilson. There will be no "freakish" features, they say which would be out of place on the day before a President of the United States is inducted into office.

That the marchers will number more than 10,000, and that the pageant features will make it one of the most dignified and impressive parades ever held in Washington is predicted by the leaders of the movement. A large deputation from New York will be headed by Mrs. Harriet Stanton Blatch, daughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Delegations from each of the ten states in which women have the vote will also march and a particularly large delegation is expected from Ohio, which will be headed by Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton.

The New York women will prove the most spectacular division in the suffrage parade, for many of them are to march, horse and foot, all the way to Washington from their home city. Plans have been completed for this pilgrimage and volunteers are adding their names to the list every day. The ranks will be swelled by accessions from the various cities through which the "woman suffrage army" is to march, but the majority will be from New York. There will not only be "infantry" but "cavalry" in this party. Many of the enthusiasts, expert horse-women, will bestride their favorite steeds, and after Baltimore is passed, it is the plan of the general commanding, "General" Rosalie Jones, to dispatch couriers from time to time, to ride into Washington like Paul Revere, and announce the progress of the army. The woman cavalry and foot soldiers alike are to wear a uniform, brown waterproof mackinaws with a monk's hood, and belted like a Norfolk jacket. All the countryside bordering on their march will be sown with their "Votes for Women" buttons and literature advocating the cause for which they march.

A feature will be a detachment of men headed by President Laidlaw of the Men's National Association for Equal Suffrage. Among the prominent members of this association who are expected to march in this section are Senator Schaffroth of Colorado, former Gov. Adams of Colorado, Representative Kent of California, Gov. Stubbs of Kansas and a number of others.

The atmosphere of the whole affair is one of beauty and education for the Suffragettes want inauguration visitors to know the spirit which prevails in the states now granting women equal voting rights.

Simple Ceremony which Consummates the Making of a President

Mr. Wilson already has participated in two inaugural ceremonies, first when he assumed the office of President of Princeton University and later when he took the oath of office as Governor of New Jersey. These are what might be termed curtain raisers for the big show. Being sworn into any office is a solemn procedure, but taking the oath to defend the Constitution of the United States as president of this Republic is the greatest obligation any human being in the whole civilized world can assume, for the office in which he is being inducted confers upon him greater power than is enjoyed by any other ruler. And withal the ceremony is a simple one. The parade, decorations and fireworks, and the general

hullabaloo that a million people intent upon having a good time can raise, are but side shows although they possess the spectacular features that attract hundreds of thousands of citizens to the national capital every four years.

The President-elect will reach Washington on March 3rd and will spend that night in his apartments at a local hotel. President Taft extended an invitation to Mr. Wilson and his family to be guests at the White House but as the Governor already had engaged quarters for himself and party the invitation was declined. In the forenoon of March 4th a White House automobile will call at the hotel for the President to be. He will be driven immediately to the White House where President Taft will greet him.

Shortly before noon the President and the President-elect will enter a carriage and escorted by a guard of honor, an organization selected by the incoming President, will ride to the Capitol. Mr. Taft occupying the seat on the right side of the vehicle. Arriving at the Capitol they will be conducted to the Senate Chamber where Gov. Marshall will take the oath as Vice President and the new members of the Senate will be sworn in. At the conclusion of this ceremony Mr. Wilson will be escorted by the Senators, the members of the House of Representatives and of the Supreme Court of the United States, to a stand erected on the east portico of the Capitol where Chief Justice White will administer the oath of office in the open air in the presence of thousands of spectators. This is the final act in the making of a President.

President Wilson will then deliver his inaugural address from the same platform; this ending the actual ceremony.

Congress sends out neatly engraved invitations to these exercises at the Capitol,—the only one of the inauguration events that can be said to be an invitation affair,—but the whole program is free to the public and any citizen is welcome if he is willing to stand. Seats are provided only for the invited guests.

To provide seats for the thousands of persons who have position or influence enough to get the coveted invitations requires a substantially constructed wooden stand that extends along the east front of the Capitol building and covers up, for the time being, the great flights of stone steps which are probably familiar to every person who has ever looked at a picture of the Capitol. On this huge semi-circular platform places are reserved not only for all the members of both branches of Congress and the ladies of their families but also for the several hundred foreigners who are stationed in Washington and the representatives of the various rulers and governments of the world; the members of the U. S. Supreme Court and other high courts of the land; Governors of states who come to Washington for the inauguration and other dignitaries whose names are well known to all readers of the newspapers. Of course there are seats for the new President's family and relatives and for high officers of the army and navy. From the front of this stand the President, facing the crowd standing below, delivers his inaugural address. As early as January of this year Congress had appropriated a good many thousands of dollars to defray the expense of erecting this huge stand and to pay for the services of extra police officers who will preserve order in the vast throng.

The Inaugural Address

There is a tradition in Washington that Thomas Jefferson on the occasion of his first inauguration as President, more than a century ago, rode to the Capitol on horseback and having tied his steed to a convenient post, as a farmer might do at a cross-roads store, went into the building to take the oath of office without undue fuss or feathers. It is difficult to say just how much foundation there is in fact for this story but it is significant, because Woodrow Wilson evidently would like to follow in the footsteps of Jefferson in so far as possible.

Nor is it at all strange if the new President who takes the oath of office on March 4, 1913 should be appealed to by the democratic example of his distinguished predecessor. Not only was Jefferson the founder of the party that is now to be in power and the author of its basic principles, but Jefferson and Wilson are fellow-Virginians. Indeed, the incoming President was born at Staun-

ton, in the Old Dominion, only a short distance from Jefferson's home at Monticello, and an important part of Wilson's education was received at the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, which institution was founded by Jefferson; formed his pet project; and the architectural plans of which were prepared by him personally or at least under his personal supervision.

As our country has grown in size and population and wealth there has come a corresponding change in the pomp and ceremony of official formalities at Washington. Probably most people would declare that it would not be in keeping with the importance and dignity of the republic to have, in this twentieth century, a Presidential inauguration so lacking in show and splendor as was that of Jefferson which was the first event of the kind held in the City of Washington.

To be sure, if the weather is very unfavorable the Chief Justice of the United States will administer the oath of office to the newly-elected President inside the Capitol as was done when President Taft took office four years ago and when, it may be remembered a blizzard descended on Washington and temporarily cut the capital city off from the rest of the world. But, under ordinary circumstances, nowadays, no incoming President would be expected to take the oath in the Senate Chamber as did Thomas Jefferson. Nor is it likely that Woodrow Wilson would change this part of the program if he could because he is an advocate of democracy as well as simplicity and it was another believer in true democracy, namely Andrew Jackson who, away back in 1829, set the fashion of delivering his inaugural address in the open air and to all the people who could get within hearing.

The historical accounts seem to indicate that even as late as Jackson's time the formality of taking the oath of office was conducted in the legislative hall but the inaugural address was delivered outside the building, and this is what counts in the estimation of the crowd that have journeyed hundreds or thousands of miles for the event. Indeed, the audience is so large that no hall could contain it and those on the outskirts of the vast crowd, though within sight, are beyond the sound of the President's voice. The address, which is considered the important part of these noon-day exercises, may last half an hour or more.

At the conclusion of his address the President will reenter his carriage with Mr. Taft and start for the White House. And now the spectacular features begin.

On the ride down the avenue Mr. Wilson will sit on Mr. Taft's right. Sometimes the retiring President does not return to the White House with his successor. Mr. Roosevelt, for instance, as soon as the inaugural ceremonies were completed, hurried to the Union Station, where he took a train for Oyster Bay, and Mrs. Taft established a new precedent by riding down the avenue with the President.

The starting of the President from the Capitol will be announced by the firing of a cannon and this will be the signal to the waiting soldiers, sailors, and citizens that the monster parade is about to begin. The marchers will fall in behind the presidential carriage and Mr. Wilson will start on his first ride as President of the United States. When the White House is reached the parade is halted while the new President partakes of a hasty lunch. He is then escorted to a stand erected in front of the White House in what is termed the Court of Honor, the "Forward March" order is given and the long line files past him. The review has usually taken from four to five hours.

The Guard of Honor

The honor of being the personal escort of the President-elect and of the President down Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House to the Capitol is much sought after. The competition this year has been chiefly between Company L, Second Regiment, New Jersey National Guard, and the cadets of the Virginia Military Institute.

The New Jersey organization has fifty-seven members, most of whom are Princeton graduates and neighbors of Gov. Wilson. The Company was founded by Col. William Libbey, Princeton "77" who is on the staff of Gov. Wilson. Its captain is Marcus Farr, an instructor of geology in Princeton. It is buying new uniforms for the inauguration.

The claim of the cadets is being urged by graduates of the University of Virginia where Gov. Wilson studied law, for the Institute and the University always have pulled and fought together. They champion each other and the friends of the Institute say it would be especially appropriate for Mr. Wilson to select these cadets as his escort.

However, the coveted honor goes to neither of these organizations, because, not being mounted, they could not keep pace with the rapid progress of the President's carriage to and from the Capitol, but to the Essex Troop of Cavalry of Newark, N. J. This is Mr. Wilson's own selection.

The Grand Procession

The really big popular feature of the day is the inaugural parade. The marchers assemble in the vicinity of the Capitol and for hours before the start for the White House is made, the air is filled with the sounds of bands escorting the different organizations to their places. The parade is divided into two main sections—the military and the civic and is a most imposing pageant. Maj. General Leonard Wood, Chief of Staff of the United States Army, has been selected as Grand Marshal and he will pick his aids from among the highest officers in the service.

This year it promises to be bigger and more imposing than ever despite Mr. Wilson's expressed wish for a return to the simple dignity of the old-time inaugurations, for the Committee have determined to make up so far as possible, for the loss of the ball by adding grandeur to the parade and fireworks.

President Wilson will review his Inaugural pageant from the vantage of a stand enclosed in glass and well heated. In former years the Presidents have been wont on most occasions to stand bareheaded on an open platform but the experience of four years ago when President Taft shivered though clad in a fur-lined overcoat and really endangered his health has taught the men in charge of such matters that it is not safe to take such chances. The procession as it traverses that portion of Pennsylvania Avenue (two or three squares in length) in front of the White House will pass through a court of honor specially provided in honor of the occasion. This court of honor will be quite different from anything of the kind provided at any previous inauguration and the expectation is that it will be more beautiful and more artistic.

The combination of green and white has been adopted as the inauguration colors of 1913 and, perhaps because green is suggestive of verdure, it has been planned to use trees, shrubbery and leaves for the ornamentation of the court of honor rather than the painted poles and imitation marble pillars which have been employed at previous inaugurations and which usually have place in courts of honor wherever erected. But though this sylvan setting and decorations are to be employed in the court of honor and, for that matter, throughout the entire city, the idea must not be gained that the American flag or the national colors are to be neglected. They will be employed lavishly in conjunction with the green and white.

Preparations have been made to make the inaugural parade of 1913 one of the most impressive in the history of the nation although it is possible that it will not be the largest ever given. This is explained by the fact that in deference to the expressed wishes of President-elect Wilson the representation of the army and navy will not be as large as at some similar functions in the



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PART OF WHITE HOUSE AND GROUNDS IN FOREGROUND AND CAPITOL IN THE DISTANCE

past. However, Uncle Sam's military forces will be represented by three regiments of infantry, one regiment of cavalry, a battalion each of engineers and field artillery and the cadets from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point. The Navy will be represented by a regiment each of marines and bluejackets,—the latter landed, for the occasion from the battleships of the Atlantic fleet,—and by the midshipmen from the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. The cadets and midshipmen from Uncle Sam's Military and Naval Academies are a conspicuous feature of every inaugural parade owing to their showy uniforms and the precision with which they march and drill.

This long-drawn procession, that will follow President Wilson up Pennsylvania Avenue to his new home will be made up of four grand divisions, each division having probably a dozen or more brass bands and half a dozen drum corps to enable its marchers to keep step. In the first division will be the military and naval forces as above mentioned. The second division which will be a very extensive one will be made up of the organized militia from the various states and the cadets from schools and colleges in all parts of the country. Comprising the third division will be the patriotic societies and organizations such as the Grand Army of the Republic and the Spanish War Veterans. In the fourth division will march the civic organizations, clubs and societies, and prominent among these will be the many and various organizations and deputations of college men including professors, graduates and students led by a score or more of college and university presidents. This turnout of college men is an entirely new feature due to the fact that Mr. Wilson is the first college president to become President of the United States.

Parade of College Men a New Feature

The Wilson and Marshall College Men's League of New York, which took so active a part in the Empire State campaign is planning to come here en masse for the inauguration and to take part in the parade.

After the university and college "Prexies" will march the class of '79 of Princeton, the class of which Woodrow Wilson was a member, and after that the class of 1908 of which Chairman McCombs was a member. Following these two classes will march the college men grouped by colleges and universities. Big delegations of Harvard, Yale and Princeton men are certain, particularly the last named. Between 8,000 and 10,000 college men are likely to march in this section of the parade.

When all is said and done, inaugural parades, like circuses and pretty much alike but this fact never dampens the ardor of the people who travel from far and near to see the spectacle and some of whom pay fancy prices for good view points. Why, single windows overlooking Pennsylvania Avenue rent for as much as \$25 to \$75 for inauguration and there are large rooms, with a number of windows, which bring as much as \$1,000 to \$2,000 for use on that one day. It is difficult to predict in advance how many men will march in an inaugural parade because the weather has something to do with it. Although the 7,000 army and navy men who have been detailed to honor President Wilson on his first day in the White House will be expected to tramp over the route, attired in full dress uniform, rain or shine. President Grant on the occasion of his first inauguration had the largest inaugural parade held up to that time. President Harrison went into office on the wettest inauguration day in history but 30,000 paraded in the rain. President Roosevelt's inauguration parade was unique because of the cowboys and Indians who took part and four years ago the men who marched in honor of President Taft waded through snow and slush that in some places was knee deep. Yet, even this experience failed to induce Congress to take action to change the inauguration to a date later in the spring.

Heretofore, when the parade was over and the streets of the Capital City filled with crowds of mingled citizens and soldiery, the President, his household and everyone else has been ready for the inaugural ball. Washington wonders what it will do this year. For this unique social function has come to be regarded as much a part of the day's ceremonies as the actual administration of the oath to the new President.

Gay Society Dismayed at Loss of Inaugural Ball

There is woe, accordingly, in every circle of the Capital at the determination not to hold the ball this year, and social leaders, wives of Congressmen and Senators, even the titled ladies of the foreign embassies have joined their voices with those of shop girls and stenographers in a sigh of regret. In past years, especially since the first inauguration of President Cleveland, the ball has been the occasion for the meeting upon a common social ground of the high, the middle and the lowly. But all those who had looked forward to the event for four years, must wait at least another four before they can help to dance in a new ruler's inauguration.

It was not only the consideration of the item of expense that led President-elect Wilson to turn down his thumb on the projected ball. It is whispered that those who are most bemoaning its loss, the dancing portion of the American people, actually brought it on themselves through their adoption of the modern dances, the "turkey trot," "grizzly bear," "bunny hug," "Texas Tommy" and others of the ultra type. When the inaugural committee was pondering the reason for the smash-up of their plans, a member who was recognized as an intimate friend of the Wilsons explained that Gov. Wilson had been very unfavorably impressed with articles appearing in the newspapers about the likelihood of these dances being tried at the ball.

It also appeared to be the opinion of the President-elect, according to the verbal report made to the committee, that no matter what precautions might be taken by the authorities, it would be impossible to prevent some of those attending the ball from dancing the new movements which have so shocked the sense of decency of the better element of the community.

Mrs. Wilson too, had gone on record as being steadfastly opposed to such dances, and she had said that the "one-step" and all its extreme variations would not receive her sanction at any social function to be given under the auspices of the incoming administration. The committee realized the difficulty of attempting to regulate the dancing in such a large and mixed assembly, and possibly there was just a little relief felt that this responsibility was to be avoided. At any rate, they took Mr. Wilson's request as an order and Washington mourns in vain for the loss of its quadrennial party. The managers of former inaugural balls have been spared such embarrassment simply because these objectionable dances were not then in vogue.

As our readers probably are interested to know more about this great social feature which is to be omitted at this, and perhaps at future inaugurations, we give the following brief description of what the inaugural ball has been.

Inaugural Ball That Was

This unique social function which closed the ceremonies of the day has been held in the Pension Office, since the first inauguration of President Cleveland, for the reason that no other public building in the city has the same facilities for the accommodation of the vast throngs which come from all over the United States to see the President they have chosen inducted into office with all of the customary frills and formalities.

The magnificent hall of this building with its massive pillars running clear to the roof, has a floor space around the central fountain, of 130 by 280 feet and is overlooked by four tiers of galleries from which the assembled thousands could watch the Presidential party promenade the length of the ballroom through the ribbon roped aisle in the grand march which opened the ball.

So popular has this affair become that of late years the crowds have ranged from 10,000 to nearly 15,000 people, at times so congesting the



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MRS. WILSON (seated in center) and DAUGHTERS, ELEANOR, JESSIE and MARGARET

floor space, that it became necessary to form waiting lines in the corridors. As each group of guests departed the same number were permitted to enter.

A portion of the first gallery was always reserved for the use of the President and his party, and the rooms opening out upon it, were transformed from business offices into gorgeously decorated state chambers and supper-room for the distinguished guests where they received their special friends and partook of the supper with some degree of privacy and comfort.

In all matters relative to the arrangements of the ball no expense was spared and no efforts seemed too great to put forth to make each one of these balls the superior, in the point of beauty of decorations, lavish display and also the sumptuous supper, to its predecessor.

For one night, once every four years, the American public met upon a common social ground through the medium of a five dollar ticket. On this occasion for a few hours the aristocracy rubbed elbows with its own lowly hirelings and both classes mingled their cheers and plaudits for the new chief executive of the land. Every class of society sent its representatives to the ball. To many a shop girl this was the one great event of her life, when she had purchased the right to walk, dance and eat on the same plane as her wealthy patron, for the supper was also accessible to all who had the price for a ticket.

Just as individuals from every walk of life are to be found among the vast concourse of people so every type and conception of dress was seen from swallow tails to corduroys, and from the Sunday church dress to the imported jewel spangled robe. Native Oriental costumes of foreigners vied with the gold-laced uniforms of our military contingent and jewels both real and paste were used galore.

The ball was opened with a grand march led by the President escorting the wife of the chairman of the Inauguration Committee who acted as escort for the President's wife. The famous Marine Band furnished the music. At the conclusion of the march the President and his party retired to a box erected in the gallery and there watched the merry dancers on the floor below.

The first official inauguration ball that the national capital ever saw, was held when James Madison, the fourth of the Presidents, was inaugurated on March 4th, 1809. True there had been dances galore for his predecessors, Washington, Adams and Jefferson, but these were more than select and partook in no way of the nature of an official function.

The ball that was held in Madison's honor was modestly designated as "a dancing assembly" and was held at Long's Hotel on Capitol Hill in Washington. The tickets were all in the hands of the managers so that not everyone who had the price, could avail himself of the opportunity to see the Chief Executive foot it lightly. The committee in charge were prominent in the city and identified with its most brilliant social set, and therefore they set up certain restrictions. In spite of this however the day was made festive for all the city, beginning with a Federal salute fired from the guns of the Navy Yard and at night when the four hundred favored guests arrived at the hotel, there was a huge crowd outside to watch them and make audible comment.

The first hint of the parade that has grown to be such an impressive feature of the later day Presidents' induction into office came in 1817 in honor of President Monroe. We are told that "A large cavalcade of citizens escorted him and Vice President Tompkins to Congress Hall" and that he was greeted with salvoes of artillery both at the Capitol and at the Executive Mansion upon his return as President.

It was John Quincy Adams who brought the first real touch of military pomp to the occasion by having a uniformed escort, although nowadays a governor visiting one of the larger cities in formal manner is accorded more soldiers.

His immediate successors did not strive for much greater display. Buchanan had a procession in his honor, which included twenty-four military companies, seven clubs and associations and several fire companies beside a fleet on which rode a woman impersonating the Goddess of Liberty and a large model of a man-of-war. But it remained for the first inauguration of Abraham Lincoln at a time when all the country was stirring in military enthusiasm to bring the first great review of troops. Since then, except when the death of three Chief Executives by an assassin's bullet has called for the hurried swearing-in of their successors there has not been a single inauguration, no matter what the weather, that has not been marked by ever increasing display of Federal and State forces. President-elect Wilson's hope for a simple ceremony may mark the turning point for a "revision downward."

Wonderful Display of Fireworks

With no Inaugural Ball to divide attention all interest on the evening of inauguration day will

be centered in the splendid display of fireworks which will be given for the benefit of the public on that great sweep of lawn that extends from the White House to the Washington Monument. Here a quarter of a million people can watch the spectacle in comfort. More than \$5,000 will be expended on this fireworks' display and the program will include such appropriate novelties as portraits of Wilson and Marshall in fire and a flaming American flag that will float high in the air, suspended from balloons that will be invisible at night. There have been similar displays of fireworks in the President's "back yard" at previous inaugurations but the one planned for 1913 is more elaborate than any of its predecessors.

There is one more feature, a great one, that should not be overlooked. That is the expense entailed by the preparations for and the carrying out of modern day inaugurations. When Mr. Taft took office it was estimated that at least \$5,000,000 was spent by the people at large in various ways. The strain on the Government is indeed slight, for all it pays for is the building of the stand on the Capitol portico where the President takes the oath, the hiring of extra police to preserve order in the city, and the transportation for Uncle Sam's nephews of the army and navy, the Cadets from West Point and the Midshipmen from Annapolis.

The cost to the government for this inauguration will be considerably less than usual because of the omission of the inauguration ball. The citizens' committee always provided the ball and the sale of the tickets at \$5.00 each more than covered the committee's expense; but the government provided the ballroom free, permitting the use of the great Pension Office Building, as previously described, for this purpose, and it is estimated that this has cost the government \$100,000 for each ball held there. The reason is that in this building a large force of clerks and officials of the Pension Department do their work. Their desks, furniture and papers have to be removed for ten days or two weeks in order to arrange and decorate the interior for the occasion and the expense of this moving out and moving in again is large, besides the loss of time of the army of pension clerks whose pay goes on during this interruption of the service which is also a serious inconvenience to the public. For these reasons Congress was quite willing to grant Mr. Wilson's request that the ball be cut out. Although the ball will be missed by Washington stockholders and others who would profit by it, and by fashionable society folks who regret it as a lost opportunity to gratify their personal vanity, the great mass of the plain people where common sense and decency abide commend the President-elect's action and approve his reasons, both economic and moral.

Who Pays the Big Bill?

But what does it cost the sightseers to take in this big free show?—all supposed to be free now that the ball is dispensed with. The railroad fares of the 200,000 to 300,000 citizens who come from all parts of the country to see or to march in the procession, and pay their own way, amounts to an enormous sum. The Washington hotels, boarding houses and restaurants rake in at least \$1,500,000 from the visitors. Places at windows or seats in the stands along the line of march are costly, and with various other things that people bent on a good time feel they must have on such an occasion consume the rest of the visitor's money. Each of the 1,800 windows along the line of march lets for \$25 or more for the day, and large rooms for \$1,000 to \$2,000. At every turn it costs, and the aggregate is big even for a person who tries to do the show with moderation, for all Washington is on the make and this is her golden opportunity, a grand harvest time which comes only once in four years,—she makes the most of it.

The citizens of Washington appoint an Inaugural Committee which raises money by subscription to provide the Court of Honor and other decorations and the illuminations, fireworks and music. This year the fund thus raised amounts to \$100,000. In reality however this money is merely loaned by the men who contribute. They will get all of their money back, or nearly all of it, at least. For, be it known, this committee has the privilege of erecting along the line of march huge stands,—similar to the grand stand at a county fair, only much larger,—from which spectators may view the parade, and the thousands of seats on these stands are sold to the public at prices ranging from \$1 to \$5 each, according to location. Indeed a visitor's only chance to see this parade free of charge is to find a place on the curb and that is difficult to do because there are so many other folks who are seeking to do the same thing. So you see that although Washington entertains and provides a considerable part of the show, the visitors ultimately pay the bills with a big profit added.

For the privilege of seeing a ruler raised to the seat of government every four years, the public

likes to pay and will always pay. Why not? The fun is always there, even if fitting weather isn't, and the weather man may be circumvented by the time another inauguration is due.

Personal View of Mr. Wilson and His Family

In conclusion just a few words about the new President and his family. Mr. Wilson's life-work has been that of an educator and in the position of president of Princeton University he has attained the highest rank in his chosen profession. Contrary to the generally accepted belief that schoolmasters and college professors are apt to be too theoretical and visionary to deal successfully with the larger practical affairs outside the class room, Mr. Wilson has shown so much interest and sound judgement in the treatment of public questions, great and small, that the people, not the politicians, of New Jersey made him their Governor. This position he now has to resign as he steps from it into the White House at the call of the nation. He is a progressive with an excellent record as Governor which has made him President, and as such, we predict, he will be the servant of the whole people and not the tool of the trusts, grafters and politicians.

Mr. Wilson's financial resources are small, for he has not inherited wealth and his profession does not afford an opportunity for accumulating much; even the college presidents are not paid large salaries. He is inspired by a higher ambition, than the mere piling up of riches. Unlike President Taft, Woodrow Wilson had no influential friends to boost him from one fat office to another, nor multi-millionaire brother to spend a fortune, and a big one, in support of his candidacy for the presidency; but he has got there on his own merits, by superiority of intellect, force of character and hard work.

Simple in his tastes, frugal in his habits, genial in his manners and democratic in his intercourse with the people, President Wilson is expected to give us an administration conspicuously characterized by brains, work, efficiency, backbone and integrity rather than by golf playing and automobile speeding.

To illustrate the effect of difference in environment, association and experience, President Taft, reared in the lap of luxury, answered the great problem of the frightful extravagance which threatens national ruin on the one side while the people are being crushed by the high cost of living on the other, by the profound remark that, "This is an automobile age." So it may be for him and those whose interests he has served. But not so with Woodrow Wilson who, like the vast majority of the plain people, has had to practice rational economy all his life. Being asked recently whether he liked automobiling, he replied that he had never experienced enough of it to really know, but did enjoy his bicycle which was as much in the way of a roadster as he could afford.

Mr. Wilson is a good neighbor and a model husband and father, and, according to Abraham Lincoln's standard wealth, is rich in the possession of a good wife and three nice daughters, fine and talented young ladies for whose training and education their father and mother have been unsparing in their efforts. As might be expected of girls thus reared, they are not mere society butterflies, but are active workers in charity and other movements for the betterment of humanity.

Mrs. Wilson is a noticeably handsome woman of pleasing manners, graceful carriage and fine presence befitting the first lady of the land. But better, as may be inferred from mention of her in COMFORT'S Sisters' Corner and Cooking Departments, she is domestic in her habits and skilled in the all-important household arts. Under the influence of her cultured mind and high standards of morality and propriety the social functions at the White House are expected to be noted for good taste and refinement rather than lavish display and extravagance.

Will Mr. Wilson Abolish the Pernicious Custom of Serving Intoxicating Liquors at the White House?

Another pertinent question which appears to have escaped public notice forces itself on the mind of the writer, and that is whether or not Mr. Wilson will serve alcoholic liquors at the White House.

It is within his power to do more than any other man on earth for the advancement of the cause of temperance by setting an example to the nation and the world, not only of total abstinence on his own part but, even more import, of not offering liquor to his guests who are also the guests of the nation while he occupies the official residence of its chief magistrate.

With the exception of President Hayes' administration it has been the custom to pass out the drinks at state dinners and other social functions of a public nature at the White House. But it is "a custom," as Shakespeare says, "more honored in the breach than in the observance," for the liquor habit is by far the most costly and destructive of all the vices that curse humanity. What good was it for President Taft to preach temperance and advocate and even practice total abstinence while he publicly handed out liquor



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PRESIDENT WILSON'S HOME AT PRINCETON, N. J.

to guests at the White House? The force of example is stronger than that of precept.

Some may argue that we have no right to concern ourselves with what the President gives his guests to drink so long as the bounds of due decorum are not exceeded. But such reasoning is wide the mark, for he is not a private citizen nor are his entertainments at the White House private functions. The White House is more than his private home. It is the official residence of the head of the nation, maintained at public expense, and in the entertainment which he gives there he acts officially as the representative of the entire American people. The nation has certain social duties to perform and it is through the President that they are done. For instance, he is expected to keep open house on New Year's day for the reception of the officers of this and of foreign governments, who are in duty bound to pay him their respects, and of such of our citizens as fit to call upon him. Again international etiquette requires him to give an annual dinner to the foreign ambassadors stationed at Washington, and in this he is but extending the hospitality of this nation to the nations of the world. So there are many other dinners, lunches, teas and parties of an official character which he gives each year. As their chosen representative he gives these social affairs in behalf of the American people, who also foot the bills either directly or through the salary they pay him; and as it is for the honor and dignity of the nation that it is done, have not the people a right to say that the bad example of serving intoxicating liquors to the nation's guests at the White House shall no longer be tolerated?

We hope that President Wilson will cut it out voluntarily; but if he does not, let every minister of the gospel, every temperance society and every citizen who is interested in promoting temperance write and respectfully urge him to do so.

As this article was necessarily prepared in advance, some minor details of the inauguration may be changed even after this paper has gone to press the latter part of February, but barring accidents and weather impossibilities the program, as already arranged, undoubtedly will be carried out with all the important features we have described.

DO YOU GET UP WITH A LAME BACK?

Have You Rheumatism, Kidney, Liver or Bladder Trouble?

Pain or dull ache in the back is evidence of kidney trouble. It is Nature's timely warning to show you that the track of health is not clear.

Danger Signals.

If these danger signals are unheeded more serious results follow: Bright's disease, which is the worst form of kidney trouble, may steal upon you.

The mild and immediate effect of Swamp-Root the great kidney, liver and bladder remedy is soon realized. It stands the highest for its remarkable curative effect in the most distressing cases. If you need a medicine, you should have the best.

Lame Back.

Lame back is only one of many symptoms of kidney trouble. Other symptoms showing that you need Swamp-Root are, being obliged to pass water often during the day and to get up many times during the night.

Inability to hold urine, smarting in passing, uric acid, headache, dizziness, indigestion, sleeplessness, nervousness, sometimes the heart acts badly, rheumatism, bloating, lack of ambition, may be loss of flesh, sallow complexion.

Prevalency of Kidney Disease.

Most people do not realize the alarming increase and remarkable prevalence of kidney disease. While kidney disorders are the most common diseases that prevail, they are almost the last recognized by patient and physicians, who usually content themselves with doctoring the effects, while the original disease constantly undermines the system.

Sample Bottle Sent Free.

Regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles at all drug stores.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—To prove the wonderful merits of Swamp-Root you may have a sample bottle and a book of valuable information, both sent absolutely free by mail. The book contains many of the thousands of letters received from men and women who found Swamp-Root to be just the remedy they needed. The value and success of Swamp-Root is so well known that our readers are advised to send for a sample bottle. Address Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure to say you read this generous offer in COMFORT. The genuineness of this offer is guaranteed.



Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., which you will find on every bottle.

BE A DETECTIVE: Earn from \$150.00 to \$300.00 per month; travel over the world. Write C. T. Ludwig, 452 SCARRITT BLDG., KANSAS CITY, MO.

HEIRS Wanted at once. 50,000 estates seeking claimants. You may be one. Facts in booklet. Send stamp. International Claim Agency, "G", Pittsburgh, Pa.

WANTED—AMBITIOUS, HUSTLING, TOWN or COUNTRY man. In each locality. One who desires to get ahead, learn, and earn more. Fine chance. Experience is not needed. Write quick for full particulars. Box 9-292, Covington, Ky.

25 LOVERS' POST CARDS AND NAME CARDS Send this to your sweetheart. (No two alike). Floral Motifs, Primitives, Butterflies, Fairy Girls, Love Letters, Love Songs, Sweet Acquaintances, Hidden Names and other new cards; also 250 St. Valentine's Cards. Free from us last all for 10 Cents. UNION CARD CO., 856 Columbia, Ohio

"LET ME" read your character from your handwriting. Mind you get a good reading that will help you in love, health, business and domestic affairs. Price 10c. Money back if dissatisfied. G. A. Beauchamp, 2583 8th Ave., New York.

Big Entertainer 320 Jokes and Riddles. 153 Parlor Games and Magic, 15 Tricks with Cards, 73 Toasts, 7 Comic Recitations, 3 Monologues, 22 Funny Readings. Also Checkers, Chess, Dominoes, 8 Men Morris. All 10c. postpaid. J. C. Dorn, 709 So. Dearborn St., Dept. 24, Chicago, Ill.

THIS THIN MODEL YEAR WATCH \$3.75 Beautifully finished, jewel-like, guaranteed, and stem set, fitted with 7 jeweled American made lever movement, guaranteed 20 years, with long gold finished chain for Ladies, vest chain or fob for Gent. \$3.75

90 Year Guarantee DO NOT BUY UNTIL YOU SEE IT. Let an agent or C. O. D. for examination. Give us your address, express office, and if you think a bargain and equal in appearance to any \$15.00 gold finished watch pay the express agent our special value price \$3.75. Mail order if you want "Little" Jewel for Boys. SPECIAL SALES CO., 420, Washington Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

Big Free Educational Contest

IN ORDER TO MAKE THIS CONTEST INTERESTING, WE WILL GIVE FREE A ROMAN GOLD FINISHED, LADIES' BELT PIN TO EACH CONTESTANT.

This is a splendid, unprecedented opportunity to exercise your brains. Everybody coining 50 words correctly from the following letters:

M-O-N-I-A-U-K-P-O-I-N-T

Will receive a deed to one high, dry investment site near Montauk Point, L. I.

A nominal charge of \$7 will be made to cover cost of deed.

and placing surveyor's stake with number of each lot, together with a signed certificate by surveyor that work has been done.

No answers accepted from minors. No one is required to purchase additional lots, but should any successful contestant desire to do so, the full price will be \$60, on easy terms.

The property is beautifully located and is in the town of Southampton. It is in the midst of a noted health and summer resort section. There are beautiful views in every direction, and bathing, boating and fishing are of the best.

All eyes are turned toward Montauk. It is destined to be the scene of the biggest boom in the history of real estate. Here are two important notices which appeared in the daily papers recently:

"Bringing the railroad and the ship alongside under a plan that accommodates all the railroads is a far more simple problem and a far greater need than providing a few piers."—Editor Eve, World.

Mr. Ralph Peters, president of the Long Island R. R., commenting on the decision of the Secretary of War, said: "All I can say at this time is that Montauk will be used as an auxiliary port to maintain the supremacy of New York's commercial position. It is a natural, perfect harbor, and it will be developed and used for the large, fast passenger boats. It will be New York what Cox Haven is to Hamburg and what Fishguard is to London. Regardless of whatever may be said by adverse critics at the present time, Montauk is a certainty and will arrive much sooner than has been expected."—Eve, World, Nov. 13.

These are straws that show which way the wind is blowing.

This contest closes March 30th. Address all communications to

W. C. REEVES & CO., Dept. C. O., 124 East 234 St., NEW YORK.

Faithful Shirley

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16.)

heart ached as she noticed the poor little crippled feet that would never walk.

"I have brought a lady to see you, Ray. Will you shake hands with her?" Lord Wallace asked, as he stepped toward Shirley with the boy in his arms.

The child gravely turned his great eyes upon her, surveyed her with inquiring earnestness for a moment, then putting out his tiny hand to her he remarked as he again lifted his glance to his father.

"She is a pretty lady, papa." Lord Wallace glanced quickly at the young girl, who had clasped the little hand and caressingly touched her lips to it, and smiled to see her color deepen at his boy's innocent compliment. Then, to turn the subject, he gave him the orchid he had plucked.

"Oh, papa, another flower-bird," he eagerly cried, as he grasped the wonderful blossom and studied it earnestly with his expressive eyes.

"I am sure that Ray inherits all his father's fondness for flowers," said Shirley, smiling at the quaint name he had given the orchid. "Yes, and he never destroys a blossom." Lord Wallace returned. "He will keep whatever I give him until it is withered past recognition and has to be thrown away. What you said about pansies and orchids a while ago made me think of Ray, for he seems to regard all flowers as friends and will often hold long conversations with them. But," he added, "I imagine that Madame Marton and my mother will wonder what has become of us, and so, Master Ray, you will have to go back to your chair."

"And is the pretty lady going away?" Ray questioned, with a wistful glance. "Will she never come again?" "Yes, indeed, I will come again to see you if you wish," Shirley returned with a smile. "Papa, I like the lady; I wish she would come again," said the boy, too bashful to address her directly.

"Then, if you like me, I am sure you will give me something before you go," the young girl remarked with a musical laugh, as she lifted her ripe lips to him. He instantly leaned forward, threw his arms around her neck with childish abandon, and unhesitatingly kissed her.

There was a very tender expression on the face of the master of Ivyhurst as he carefully put his son back into his richly cushioned chair, and then conducted his fair guest back to the house.

CHAPTER XX.

MADAME AND SHIRLEY RECEIVE AN INVITATION.

"Well, Shirley, how did you enjoy your call?" Madame Marton demanded, as they turned from the beautiful grounds of Ivyhurst into the highway, while she bent a searching glance upon the face of her companion.

"Very much; and what a lovely place Ivyhurst is!" Shirley exclaimed with animation. "And, madame, I saw Lord Wallace's poor little son," she added, a tear springing to her eye, as she recalled those small, distorted feet that would never take a step.

"Humph; his lordship must have been very favorably impressed with you, then, for it is seldom that he allows anyone to see the child," madame dryly replied.

A day or two later Shirley met Ray and his nurse among the pines, where she went a second time to gather wintergreens for madame.

The child appeared so pleased to see her that she sat down beside his wheel-chair, and told him a story, and it was a common occurrence for them to meet after that, while Shirley never failed to have something bright and entertaining to tell him, and so won the little fellow's heart that he clung to her, and was almost ready to weep when the time for parting came. The only way by which she could pacify him was to promise to "come again tomorrow."

Scarcely a day passed that she did not meet Lord Wallace, for having learned from Ray that "the pretty lady came every day to tell him a story," he frequently stole upon the trio in the wood, where they would often spend a merry half-hour together, mutually entertaining Ray.

Thus the weeks slipped by, and in spite of Shirley's trouble and anxiety because of her unanswered letters, and a secret foreboding that something bad had occurred to win Clifton's allegiance from her, there were many pleasant things in her life.

Madame, although she appeared to be blind to Lord Wallace's increasing fondness for the soci-

ety of her companion, managed to keep pretty well posted regarding all that was going on around her, and was secretly pleased by these attentions.

One morning when the master of Ivyhurst called and as was his custom inquired for "the ladies," madame made some excuse, and sent Shirley down to receive him alone.

"I reckon we'll manage to make a lady of her yet," she muttered, with a wise nod of her head and a chuckle of satisfaction as the door closed after the girl. "Bless her heart," she added, a softened light shining in her keen black eyes. "I never knew what it was to be really fond of any girl before, but she has a way with her that no one can resist."

Three months previous madame would have laughed to scorn the thought of being guilty of so much sentiment or of being won by the "way" of anyone.

On this morning referred to Nell had come, he said, at his mother's request, to invite Madame Marton and Miss Livingstone to spend a week with them at Ivyhurst. Some relatives had arrived from England, he further explained, and they wished to do everything possible to entertain them during their visit.

"My father's brother, with his wife, son, and two daughters, are about to make a tour of the United States, and will spend a couple of weeks with us before starting upon their journey, so of course we must have some young people in the house to make it lively for them," he concluded animatedly, but awaiting with considerable anxiety the young girl's reply.

Shirley's face brightened, and her eyes glowed with anticipation in view of the invitation. It was so long since she had been among young people that she was hungry for society and longed to mingle with those of her own age.

"It would be very pleasant," she remarked, with deepening color, "and Lady Wallace is very kind to include me in her invitation. It will give me great pleasure to meet your young cousins."

"I think you will enjoy them," the young man replied. "Tom is a gay, good-hearted fellow, and his sisters are charming little ladies. Do you think you can prevail upon madame to come? I have a note here from my mother, pressing the matter," he concluded, with some anxiety, for he well knew that his peculiar neighbor had persistently shunned all society for many a long year.

"I will take it to her immediately, if you will excuse me," Shirley said, as she received the missive.

"What! has he gone already?" the woman questioned, with surprise. Looking up from the book she was reading as Shirley entered her presence, while she did not fail to observe her bright and happy face.

"Oh, no, but here is a note from Lady Wallace which he wished me to bring you," and she put it into her hands as she spoke.

"Humph!" ejaculated the woman, as with some curiosity she unfolded the dainty sheet, and read the courteously worded request for the pleasure of her own and Miss Livingstone's company for the ensuing week. "So they are going to have gay doings over yonder; those high toned relatives of mine, of course, be entertained in style—true 'English style,' no doubt, and there'll be a houseful of people."

"A houseful of people!" Shirley repeated, flushing slightly, for Lord Wallace had not mentioned that anyone besides themselves were to be invited.

"Yes, the St. Clares, from Boisseauville, and the Montcalms, from Quebec," returned madame, reading the note; "and a week from the day after tomorrow there is to be a grand lawn party, which will be followed by a select ball in the evening."

Shirley's heart sank a little at this information, for she wondered how she, a simple companion, would be received by all these aristocratic people.

Then she told herself that since Lady Wallace and her son had considered her worthy to become their guest they would be her vouchers to their other visitors, and she might as well give herself up to the enjoyment of this rare holiday if madame concluded to accept the invitation and get the most she could out of it.

Madame passed the note to her, when she had finished reading it.

"Would you like to go, child?" she inquired. "You see the invitation is as much to you as to me."

Shirley flushed.

"It is very kind of Lady Wallace to treat me thus on an equality with her other guests," she said appreciatively; "still it is not what I would like, but what would be best and proper, I suppose, I should consider. Of course, Madame Marton," she added, with her usual consideration, "if you go to Ivyhurst and desire me to attend you it will be my duty to do so simply as your companion."

"Humph!" interposed the madame good-naturedly, "you have been invited as a guest—her ladyship has put it very prettily, although she leaves it optional with us both as to how you go—and I should be rather churlish to deny you a little outing like this. The question is, would you like to go as a guest? Doesn't your heart yearn after a little pleasure with people of your own age?"

Wonders of wonders! When had Madame Marton ever before thought of asking her companion if she did not yearn after pleasure?

But, then, she had never had a Shirley Livingstone to serve her before.

"It would be very pleasant, no doubt; but—" the girl began.

"Enough said," madame curtly interrupted; "I will go down and talk the matter over a little further with his lordship; meanwhile you may copy these accounts for me."

She meant to assure herself that if Shirley went she would be so regarded by everyone, and she did not care to talk the subject over before the girl.

Shirley was somewhat disappointed with this arrangement, for she knew that Lord Wallace was expecting her to return to the drawing-room, but of course it was her duty to obey, so seating herself before the table she proceeded to fulfill the task that had been set her.

His lordship was also rather chagrined when Madame Marton entered the room alone, for he had anticipated having a social chat with Shirley before leaving.

"Your mother is very good to invite us to the coming festivities at Ivyhurst," madame remarked, after she had greeted him.

"Pray do not give her too much credit for being wholly disinterested," returned the young man smiling, "because I heard her say that she hoped you would be willing to give her the benefit of your advice and judgment in arranging for the entertainment of her guests."

"What can she expect an old maid, who has been almost a recluse for more than thirty years, to know about such things?" madame bluntly demanded, but flushing a trifle with pleasure, nevertheless, that her ladyship should have thought of consulting her upon such important questions.

"I have heard my mother say that years ago Mademoiselle Marton used to set the fashion in such things," Nell gallantly replied, "and I am sure she cannot have forgotten all her old-time cunning at entertaining."

"Very well, I will do the best I can to help her plan and execute," said madame, with more graciousness than was habitual with her. "And now I want to talk with you a little about Shirley," she continued, with a characteristic bluntness. "Your mother has been very considerate to invite her as a guest—"

"Certainly; in no other way would I sanction an invitation to her," interposed the young man, fearing a refusal, "and we shall be most happy to do everything possible to make the time pass pleasantly for her, if the arrangement meets with your approval."

"And she will be received as an equal by your other guests?" inquired madame.

"Most assuredly," returned her companion,

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with grave earnestness. "Had not such been our intention she would not have been asked personally; the invitation would simply have been extended to you, and you could have acted your own pleasure about taking her with you as your companion. But my mother and I have both recognized the fact that Miss Livingstone is a charming lady—"

"You are right there," interrupted madame with a chuckle.

"In spite of her present position," Nell went on, without heeding the remark, "and knowing that she had no young companionship since coming to St. Sauveur, we thought this little change might be a pleasant one for her. It is, of course, somewhat out of the ordinary way of life," he continued, smiling, "but if you bring such charming young ladies among us, Madame Marton, you must not find fault if we appreciate them according to their worth."

"All right, we will come; but I shall want the fact that Shirley is in my service to be entirely ignored," said madame. "Let her be introduced like any other young lady who might happen to be under my chaperonage."

"That is very considerate of you, Madame Marton," said the young man, a note of hearty commendation in his tones, "and it shall be my special care to protect Miss Livingstone against anything that can wound her. And now," he added, rising to go, "when may we expect you?"

"I think by tomorrow evening," madame answered, after a momentary reflection.

Lord Wallace looked the pleasure he experienced at this reply.

"Then I will send the carriage for you at five o'clock, if that will be agreeable; we dine at seven."

This arrangement suited madame, and the young man took his leave well pleased with the success of his errand.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 38.)

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A Corner for Boys

By Uncle John

IT is queer how a bad name will stick to anything. March, for instance has been called the windy month, and the lion-like month and is considered the greatest deliverer of all the family of twelve. Personally I like it. Boys, with vim and snap and go are not afraid of a breeze and indeed many of our kites and sails and boats depend on the stirring of the air for their very life.

A Drill

Here is an ingenious drill for boring through glass or sheet metal. The bit "A" may be made of a three-cornered file. To punch the eye at the top, heat the metal and hammer it flat, then heat again and pierce it with something sharp. The

Fig. 1.

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Fig. 80.

a frame of scantling as in Fig. 5. Light pine boards covered with roofing paper form the sides, the roof must overhang the sides and may be formed of scantling, roofboards and paper. The rudder shown in Fig. 2 hangs a foot under the surface of the water. The end of a box nailed to a pole will do for one. The boat is supposed to float down stream with the current, but you will need a few poles and oars to get back with. As a fishing shanty, swimming shelter or hunting lodge a boat like this offers many delights.

A Rowboat

Here is a rowboat that you can really and truly build. Three neighboring lads, working in their spare time, should be able to complete it in two weeks. First club together and buy the lumber needed. For the sides, two boards 14 feet long and 14 inches wide, thickness $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. For the bottom, three boards 12 feet long, 12 inches wide and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick. For seats and transom one board 12 feet long, 12 inches wide and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick. Besides this for the ribs and outside top strips we need 52 linear feet of oak strip 1 inch by $\frac{3}{4}$ inch.

First make the moulds, out of stuff not mentioned in the list. Fig. 3 shows the exact size of same. The transom "C" is one piece. Now put your three floor planks together by cleating and set the moulds and transom on them as in Fig. 2. The strips which go across the bottom or floor are now screwed firmly in place. The shape of the sideboards is shown in Fig. 6. The length is 12 feet, the width about 12 inches after being trimmed to the right curve. The dotted line which runs across Fig. 6 is the bottom, but it must be sprung down and nailed along the curved line like the bottom of the sideboard Fig. 6. The sides fit outside of the bottom. The small strips on the inside of the sides are now screwed in. They keep the bottom down in place. On the outside of those we screw our long strip to which the seats will be fastened. The seats and small deck at the bow are now nailed in. Along the outside of the sideboards at the top put strips, called fenderwales.

Every joint in the boat must be water tight.

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Fig. 69.

Fig. 70.

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with gold and silver,
producing most charming
effects in beautiful designs.
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was invented thousands of
years ago and some of the
ornaments cost thou-
sands of dollars. So it
was a very exacting and
expensive work of art and
we can now offer you some-
thing that looks as well and
wears as well, without
costing you any money.
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each Locket is
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PLATED
CHAIN, NINE-
TEEN INCHES
LONG, and sus-
pended from the
center, an en-
tirely new idea.
This Locket has
a white ground
with TRACINGS
OF GOLD form-



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we will give you the above Locket and Chain.
Address: THE COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

Presbyterian church. I help him attend to the church
house and get half of the money. Mamma does wash-
ing for people and brother works on the Olney ice
wagon and that employs all of our little family. My
brother is a very small boy. He is seventeen years
old, five feet five inches high, weighs two hundred and
sixty-five pounds. Don't you think he is a little fel-
low? I have a thoroughbred Jersey cow and am sure
proud of her. For my pet I have a little bird and
she sits on my organ and watches me play and will
watch the movement of my fingers on the notes
and move her head as I move my fingers. Do you think
she wants to learn to play the organ?

Hoping to see this in print, I am your loving niece,
MARY V. E. PROFFITT.

Mary, I have enjoyed your chatty letter im-
mensely. Anyone who reads Mary Proffitt's let-
ter can profit by it, for the whole family of the
Proffitts seem to be exceedingly industrious, hard
working and thrifty. Business has been punk
with me for a long time. Mary, and all my profits
vanished long ago, so it seems quite refreshing
to meet up with profits even if they are at the
other end of the continent way down in Texas.
Personally I am at war with the profit system,
but judging from your weight it seems to agree
with you. You say you have no "beaugs." I
don't know what a "beaug" is, Mary, but it
sounds something like a disease, and if that's the
case I congratulate you on not having it. You
ask when I think you will be old enough to go
with the boys. Let me see, you are twenty-
three years of age now, well maybe in about ten
years' time you might be permitted to rub your
feet out of the corner of my eye. I am glad
to know that you are busily engaged keeping the
linen of the people in Olney clean and present-
able. You must be quite an expert at the busi-
ness to be able to compete with the Chinks and
the steam laundries. Being a Proffitt of course
whatever business you engage in is bound to
be profitable, but for heaven's sake, Mary, why
are you putting your money in the post-office?
Don't you think the United States government
bleeds the people enough without you handing
over your hard-earned earnings to government of-
ficials? Why are you so generous to the post-
office? What has it ever done for you that
you are dumping your money into it? Maybe
Uncle Sam has taken you into partnership. It
struck me something had happened to the post-
office lately. I've had a queer uncanny feeling
for some time that something was going wrong.
It seems to me that two cent stamps have been
getting dearer and dearer every day. I suppose
that is because Uncle Sam has to pay you divi-
dends for the money you put in the post-office.
When you get tired of putting your money to
Uncle Sam send me a bunch. I need it a heap
more than the elongated gentleman with the
striped pants and chin whiskers and your
family seem to hold quite a lot of official
positions. One thing I don't understand in your
letter and that is: "Brother works on the Olney
ice wagon and that employs all our little family."
That must be a busy ice wagon if it can employ a
whole family, and if brother weighs 265
pounds, however can that ice wagon employ
all the family? I should think your brother
would fill the ice wagon up alone, and if you
got your 230 pounds on it, it strikes me the
springs would have the toothache, the wheels
drop off and the whole business collapse. Where
do you find room to stow the ice if you are all
employed on the wagon? Billy the Goat says
that the horse probably carries the ice in his
pocket. Olney apparently cannot need much cool-
ing off and can't be a very hot town if it only
keeps one ice wagon busy. Anyway, Mary, what-
ever the solution of the ice wagon mystery may
be, I heartily congratulate you and the members
of your family on your industry, diligence and
thrift. Every shiftless person can profit by read-
ing Mary Proffitt's letter.

— TEXAS.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
I have read with interest your advice to young
girls and boys in regard to marrying. Please let me
endorse every word you have ever said on the im-
portance of marriage at the age of fifteen. God knows
I have had ample time to repent my haste. I am
now thirty-one years of age. I loved my husband
with my whole heart, and I love him yet in a way,
but not as I did. I had one short year of happiness
before I discovered that my husband didn't even re-
spect much less love me. He never allowed me to
do anything I do. He never takes me anywhere, not even to
church. If I ask him for any favor, he always has
some excuse. He never allows me a penny to spend
as I want to. I never ask for anything that I can
possibly do without. I have tried every way I can
think of to win his love. It's useless, and needless
to say I have failed.

Is there any harm in reading such stories as Com-
fort publishes, or such books as Lena Rivers, St.
Elmo, etc.? I like to read, I spend my spare moments
that way. I never had an opportunity to go to school
but have tried to improve my education by reading.
My husband says I should never read anything except
the Bible. He says, "Christy, you're crazy." Uncle
Charlie, I can't see any harm in reading good books or good
papers. I think COMFORT one of the best papers pub-
lished. It is doing more for the poor and afflicted than
any church I know of. May God's richest blessings
rest on COMFORT and its noble staff of workers in my
earnest wish. Your friend and wife, "DISHEARTENED."

Here is another of the score of letters which
I am asked to publish anonymously. I think it
is right that all our readers should know how
hard are the lives of their fellow beings. It is
a good thing to arouse pity and sympathy in the
human heart. I do not want to discourage mari-
mony, but on the other hand I desire to en-
courage it in every way, when people are mental-
ly and physically fitted for wedlock. Of course
marriage will always be more or less of a lot-
tery. You can never really and truly know per-
son until you have lived with the person.
Granted, however, that there is not only an abun-
dance of love on each side, but that tempera-
ments also blend (and probably more in the long
run depends upon temperament than anything else)
husband and wife will grow together and
become truly one, reaching an ideal of human
happiness that people who never marry, and
who, if married are never really mated, can never
dream of. "Two minds with but a single thought,
two hearts that beat as one." The poet did
not mean that they should have but one thought,
but that their lives would move along in one
blissful channel without friction, harmonious
and beautiful, with no cause of discord. Out
of the last twenty letters I have read, no less
than five are from women, warning young girls
against the evils of early marriage. That sub-
ject, however, we have pretty thoroughly dis-
cussed. "Disheartened" married nearly ten years
too soon, long before she knew what a man really
was. If she had waited a few years, she would
in all probability today be a happy woman. Girls
of fifteen afflicted with puppy love have as a rule
little sense, less discernment, and the intuitive
sense, which is so strong in the gentler sex and
which enables them as a rule to size up a man's
qualities to a nicety, are utterly lacking in the
immature child of fifteen. Poor "Disheartened,"
even I pity you. Your heart is full of love, and
how I pity you, and having to live with this
miserable churl to whom you have given your life
and the best that is in you has not turned your
heart to stone, filled your soul with bitterness
nor crushed all the romance out of your exist-
ence. If I'd been married to such a muton-

headed thing, I'd have led him a pretty dance.
Directly he began to show the cloven hoof I
would have reasoned with him. If he had per-
sisted in kicking over the traces, I would have
read the riot act to him. The idea that a woman
from some false sense of duty should allow
a two-legged, bone-headed tyrant to crush all
the joy out of her life and make existence a
hell for her until the end of her days, never cut
any ice with me. There is an old saying that
while there is life there is hope, and it is a
blessed thing for us all that hope springs eternal
in the human breast, but you can't get blood out
of a stone, you can't extract gold from dross.
There is some human material that can be
worked over and reconstructed, there is other
material that simply crumbles into dust as you
touch it. In other words there are hopeless
cases in this world of both sexes, and the "man"
in this case is one of them. It is a waste of time
to talk with men of this type, or reason with
them. It would be waste of time to hammer
them with a club for they would not have
enough feeling to know they were hit. The
hardship of this poor woman's life is, that no
matter how hard she strives and works she gets
nothing but a crust of bread and a roof to shelter her.
She isn't even as well off as the animals in a hog
pen, held or stable; in fact they have a thou-
sand advantages over her. She is just a slave
and worse than a slave, for the slave did not
have to live with the slave master and could seek
and find congenial society. The utter dependence
of a woman on a man is not good for either.
It puts both in a false position. Most men,
thank God, are liberal with their wives, and turn
over to them the bulk of their earnings, knowing
that as a rule the woman is far more economical
and saving and better able to take care of the
family income. It's tough indeed that a woman
who has worked harder than a galley slave
should have to ask her husband for a dollar when
she wants one, but it's tougher still to never
even dare to ask for what you help to earn. And
think of it, this man reads the Bible! Evidently
he is another of those religious glooms that I
have often spoken of. I have known numbers of
them and have been made utterly miserable by
them. I have seen hearths desolated, homes
broken up and whole families scattered by these
religious fanatics. A dose of morphine when ad-
ministered by a surgeon is at times a blessed
thing to relieve pain, but morphine if persisted
in until one becomes a drug fiend, wrecks body
and mind. Overdoses of anything, even of the
best things, are liable to make people mentally
lopsided, and too much religion, too much Bible
study at times, have almost as had an effect
on some human beings as too much alcohol or mor-
phine on other people. The trouble with the
world today is that humanity as a whole does
not read the Bible enough, while a few people
seem to read it entirely too much for their own
good, in fact some people read and study the
Scriptures to such an extent that they develop
religious mania and become unbearable fanatics.
Their mental balance wheel goes, their vision of
life becomes distorted, they become hopelessly
narrow and bigoted and show almost exactly
similar symptoms to those you may see dis-
played by the victims of various drug habits. The
brain is a complex organism, it is not wise to
develop only one set of cells. If you do the
rest of the mental organism suffers. Concentra-
tion is the key to success, and today is the day
of the specialist, but those who concentrate and
specialize, to be successful must also be well
grounded in a variety of subjects, otherwise
they are liable to become entirely lopsided, and
their constant concentration on one thing is apt
to unbalance the whole mental machinery. People
who read the Bible exclusively, giving a literal
construction to nearly everything they read, seiz-
ing upon certain particular verses, using these
particular verses without any regard to their re-
lation to the meaning and intent of the Gospel
as a whole, Biblical hot shot with which they con-
sign others to the flames of perdition, because
they dare to smile or joke or indulge in what
these idiots call worldly pleasures, people who
would muzzle the birds, drape the sky with
crapes and turn the world into a morgue, give
me a large-sized and variegated pain. Morbid
neurotics who dismally wail: "I want to be an
angel" and as soon as they get a pain in the big
toe and have an idea that they are booked for
angel land, send in a hurry call for fourteen
doctors to keep themselves from becoming angels.
When Bible reading makes people so narrow
and intolerant that they could run a Marathon
race on the point of a needle without falling
off, and they start consigning everyone to hell
flames, it's time their sanity, or insanity was in-
quired into. Two or three of these fanatics are
one of my real all time hates. They ignore the fact
that I am trying all I can to make the human
race better, they ignore the shut-in work, because
their idea of work for shut-ins is to hand invalids
tracts, and make angels of them by hustling
them into another world. They want me to
start some "Holy Roller" movement, cut out all
the fun and yawn like an old-fashioned revivalist.
That would please them and disgust all the rest
of our readers. The trouble with the religious
glooms is this: They have no sense of humor,
and people who have no sense of humor, have
practically no place in this universe. They are
out of joint with the world. They fade gloom
and their mission is to make everyone miserable.
Thank God the vast majority of people read their
Bibles right, and from that sacred volume ex-
tract joy, light, happiness, comfort, sympathy,
love, mercy and compassion for all their fellow
beings. These are the smiling broad-minded
Christians. They are happy and want others to
be happy. They are looking for the good in life,
not for the evil. They are the personification of
cheerfulness and are an inspiration wherever
they go, and it is they who are foremost in every
good work. It is they who keep the sacred fires
of the Gospel burning and make life worth while
for us all. "Disheartened" you are chained to
tight wad and a fanatic. You can see what his
particular brand of religion has done for him and
his home, crushed the joy out of one poor wom-
an's life and converted him into a morbid miser-
ly ogre. No "Disheartened" there is no harm in
reading "St. Elmo" and other stories of that
kind. The man you live with has crushed all the
romance out of your life and in the good fiction
that you are reading you can forget your own
troubles and cares for a while, and live in a
world of enchantment created for you by the
magic pen of the story writer. It is not, how-
ever, any more advisable for you to saturate
your brain with fiction than it is for your hus-
band to saturate himself with Scriptural texts.
What you both need to do is to diversify your
reading. It would do your husband good to read
the works of Charles Dickens and if he would
read Mark Twain until he nearly laughed his
head off, he would probably come out of his
armor of gloom, take you to his heart and be a
real human being once more. There are lots
of books I should like to tell you to read, books
that would give you new ideas of life, new hopes
and ambitions, books that would tell you how to
handle that grouchy husband of yours and make
him a human being, books that would lift you out
of your present surroundings and make you ob-
livious of the depressing influences of your en-
vironment. As long as you have time to read you
can create a little world of your own, and hard-
though your lot may be, with the strength that
God will give you and the pleasure and recreation
you can obtain from communing through the
pages of good books with the minds of great men

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joy killers, as you have the misfortune to be
linked to.

MARLOW, IND. TER.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
Will you let a blue-eyed girl come in to chat a
while with you, as I am so lonesome. I am in my room
all alone and have no one to chat with me. My sister
has gone off to school and dear Uncle you don't know
how lonesome I am. I haven't seen her for three
weeks and won't see her for a long time yet. It nearly
breaks my heart to think I will have to be parted
from her so long.

We have had a new room built on our old school-
house. One room wouldn't hold all the children in
the country. So we had to build a new room on, but
haven't got it done yet.

We live in the country but do not farm, my father
works for the Cement-Plaster Company. We have
been living here for eight years.

How many of you cousins like to go to parties? I
don't. But I do enjoy going to Sunday school and
preaching. Well I guess I had better close and let
someone else have a chat. Your loving friend,
IVA JAMES.

Iva, welcome to our circle. Iva James eh?
Well my dear, I haven't a James, but I have a
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 33.)

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A Simple, Safe, Reliable Way and It Costs Nothing to Try.

This preparation of herbs, leaves, flowers and berries (containing no tobacco or habit-forming drugs) is either smoked in an ordinary clean pipe or smoking tube, and by drawing the medicated smoke into the mouth and inhaling into the lungs or sending it out through the nostrils in a perfectly natural way, the worst case of Catarrh can be eradicated.

It is not unpleasant to use, and at the same time it is entirely harmless, and can be used by man, woman or child.

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Children's Jolly Hour

With Uncle John

I KNOW from the thousands of letters that I receive that you like this Jolly Hour but I would like to know what part of it you enjoy the most. The plans are simple and you can make anything described if you have the use of scissors, a little paste, and some heavy paper. Here's a dandy scheme. Help your mamma with her work and when she gets through she will have a little time to help you work out some of the plans. If you try this let me know.

Paul and Prue and the Magic Cloak

The cave was about as big as a room and seemed very cozy and comfortable but the awful growling of the beast scared them nearly out of their wits.

"Oh," said Prue, "now we will be eaten up by that terrible beast, for this must be its home and surely it will come and attack us."

Paul was shaking with fear but he only laughed and said: "I will hold the magic cloak to the opening and the monster cannot enter." Before he had time to do this however, a big, black bear with wide open mouth and long, sharp teeth stuck its head into the cave. You may be sure they were both struck dumb with terror. The cloak lay on the ground between them and the animal and it feared to advance and tread upon it. Paul also feared to reach out and pick it up for to do so would bring him within reach of the sharp claws and teeth. At last, however, he summoned courage enough to make the at-



LEFT THE CAVE AND TRAVELED ON.

tempt. When the brave boy snatched for the magic cloak the bear struck at it with his paw but Paul touched it first and pulled it quickly away. In a second he had wrapped it around himself and Prue.

The bear had succeeded in tearing off one button and this it now swallowed. The children regretted this very much but it was all for the best because it caused the beast so much pain that it slunk away as though poisoned. With thankful hearts they left the cave and traveled on. In a few minutes they came to a steep hill which they were unable to climb.

"Oh, I am so lonely and tired I do not know what to do," sighed Prue.

"Do not lose courage sister," whispered Paul, "this hill is very steep and hard to climb but the magic cloak has helped us in every trial and it will do so now."

"Let us lie down and rest for an hour at least," begged the girl.

Paul lay the cloak down upon the grassy bank and they stretched out at full length. As soon as they lay down upon the cloak it sank from under them as though it was over a hole. Jumping up they dragged it to safety and sure enough there was a hole which proved to be the opening of a long tunnel or passage under the hill. A ground mole of immense size lay asleep at their feet. Paul touched it gently and it awoke and said:

"I will carry you through this passage to the other side of the hill but first you must give me some grub from the pocket of the magic cloak."

Prue searched the pockets and sure enough



CAME OUT NEAR A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN.

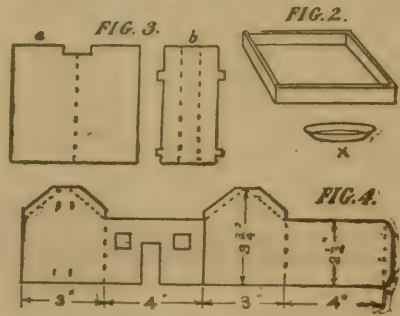
there was a piece of a green root about the size of a peach.

When the friendly mole had eaten it they got upon his back and he carried them through the long dark passage and finally came out into the bright sunshine near a beautiful garden. Fruits and vegetables of every kind were growing and they felt sure of having a fine feast. Paul had secured a large, juicy muskmelon and was just about to slice it open when

Paper Scene

The picture shown herewith is a paper village which was made by a boy and girl nine and eleven years of age. The first thing to do is to get a big pan or box as in Fig. 2. The small pan "x" full of water will serve as the lake. The hills are made of sand and the trees are forked twigs planted in it. Scatter soil over everything and add some grass for greenery. Here and there put a tiny paper boat on the lake. One or more of them should have sails. A plan for making the little houses is shown by Fig. 4. Cut the stiff paper just like this and fold it on the dotted lines. To hold it to the right shape use paste or sew it together. The road should run along the

edge of the water. After you have it well started you can add little things to make it better. In Fig. 3 "a" is the roof plan and "b" is the chimney. Any mother who wishes to amuse her



THE LITTLE VILLAGE BY THE LAKE.

children in a way they will never forget, could not do better than to build this little scene for

Paper Dart

The plan and picture show an improved way of making small darts. Get an oblong piece of paper, Fig. 1, and insert the pin "B" in the lower or right-hand corner. Now, roll the paper up, wrapping it around the pin, and finishing as in the small picture Fig. 2. To throw the dart you hold it in the position shown in Fig. 3 and cast it sharply forward. If you

IT REQUIRES JUDGMENT AND A FIRM HAND.

see who can make the dart stick nearest to the center you will have some good and interesting playtime exercise. The target may be pinned to a drape. The pin point may be sharpened by rubbing it on a stone. Be careful not to scratch the woodwork or mother will soon put an end to your fun.

Funny Bugs Get Wings

Three butterflies from Fairyland brought wings in a basket to the Funny Bugs. See them stand-



FUNNY BUGS LEARNING TO FLY.

ing in a row laughing while the butterflies pin the wings on. They are eager to fly. One tried it too soon and his wings fell off.

Cut-out Picture

Here is another of those pictures that we cut out instead of drawing with pen or pencil. This one shows the



THE LION AND LAMB.

truth of that old saying about the month of March, that is, that it comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. Another way to get amusement out of this feature is to make shadow-graphs. When you have cut the picture out of white paper hold it between the lamp and the wall and an enlarged view will be cast on the wall just as if you had a magic lantern. You can cut any picture out of paper and make shadow-graphs in the same manner. If you like such fun write me and I will answer with a pretty card.

I think that will furnish you with plenty of wholesome play for quite a long time. Some children read the Hour in a few minutes and then throw it aside. In that way you lose the best part of the fun, the plans are easy and the things you can make will amuse you and last for years. How many of you have a scrap book in which the Jolly Hour pages of different months are pasted?

UNCLE JOHN.

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made to your measure, in the latest style, you would be willing to keep and wear it, show it to your friends and let them see our beautiful samples and dashing new styles?

Could you use \$5.00 a day for a little spare time? Perhaps I can offer you a steady job. If you will write me a letter or a postal at once and say: "Send me your special offer," I will send you samples and styles to pick from and my surprising liberal offer. Address: **L. E. ASHER, President Banner Tailoring Co., Dept. 172, Chicago, Ill.**



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Creatures of Destiny

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30.)

year. I bought the pony and trap as a present to the countess."

"I see," he observed. "Well, it was rather a risky gift, unless she can drive."

"She can—quite as well as I can," said Lady Marie. "Now where shall we go? I've brought some lunch—it was my turn today. What do you say to the old ruined abbey of Croisau?"

"Anywhere will suit me," responded Larry, with infinite content. "Shall I put the reins on the curb bit? He pulls, doesn't he? He'll make you tired; your hands are so small—"

"Not too small, he will do," she answered. "They will give him too much corn; and he gets a bit above himself. You see, they don't drive him when I'm not here—"

"She stopped and bit her lip again; but Larry did not notice her momentary embarrassment; he was too much engaged in asking himself what he had done to deserve the joy of being so near to her in the tiny cart; so near he was actually touching her."

"That's a pity," he said. "It's too good to be allowed to run to seed."

They drove along the smooth, well-kept road that wound up one of the hills, and as it grew steeper, Larry vaulted out and walked beside the cart, his hand resting on the splashboard. She glanced at the long, shapely hand which had lost the roughness of its use in the mine, and thought how strong, how capable it looked; the hand of a man who could carve his way through the world with sword or axe, as occasion called; and the thought, too, struck her that it was the hand of a man well born and bred; that it was the hand of a gentleman. She remembered the old childish reference to his lowly birth and station, and wondered now as she had often wondered in the past, where Larry had got that patrician air, that refined hand, and grace of form.

They reached the ruined abbey, very little more now than a heap of ivy-clad masonry, crumbling in the hand of time; and Larry, lifting out the basket, unharnessed Grif, the pony, and looked round.

"I suppose if I turned him loose—"

"He'd make for his stable," finished Marie laughing, as she opened the basket and spread a cloth.

"Then I've got to tie him up," said Larry. "I don't see anything—"

"Ah! he will do; catch hold of him for a moment, please, Larry."

He went off to a huge stone that lay at a little distance among the long grass, and, to Marie's astonishment, lifted it with apparent ease, set it down near them, and fastened the rein to it, remarking:

"He won't move that, I think."

"No; I should think not," she responded dryly. "What is the weight of that stone, Larry? Come and sit down. There's a bottle of wine—grown and made on the estate—and a bottle of ale—I thought you'd like it—"

"Bless my George!" he exclaimed. "Who'd have thought of it here! Your friend, the countess, is indeed fond of English things!"

"And here is some fruit, and a pie, and some—"

"Some scones!" she went on hurriedly. "Scones! Why, they're like the ones we used to have!"

He stopped and looked at her, his eyes dangerously eloquent, his face flushed.

"Oh, they won't be as good, of course," she said, still hurriedly. "You must not expect it, you know here in France. Oh, how I used to enjoy those scones! I'm afraid I was a greedy little pig."

"You were," said Larry, musing happily; and away they harked to the old childhood days; and Larry noticed that there was scarcely a detail which she had forgotten.

They lingered over their lunch, then wandered about the ruins of the abbey; Grif grazing placidly, but staring, with the Exmoor's quick nervousness, when their voices or their laughter floated to him.

At last Lady Marie looked at her watch.

"Not time to go yet?" said Larry; and she stifled a sigh as she nodded.

He harnessed the pony, and they started homeward. Larry was silent for a space, then he said gravely, reluctantly, for his conscience had been pricking him—he had, at times, in these happy hours, almost forgotten the mission he had undertaken for the marquis, who lay helpless on a sick bed:

"I'm afraid if the countess doesn't turn up to-morrow, I shall have to go in search of her. Do you know where she is?"

Marie's face went pale suddenly, and she was silent for a moment; then she said slowly, and in a low voice:

"Oh, can't you wait just a day or two—"

Larry shook his head still more gravely, but said nothing; and they drove on silently. Presently they came to a very steep little bit of the road.

"I'll get out and ease the pony," he said. "Better take him down carefully; it's a slippery place."

He walked on quickly, his conscience troublesome. Yes, it was shameful; here was he content to moon away the days with Lady Marie, while Lord Belmayne, who had trusted him, was rating his heart out. He had broken trust with the marquis; he must go in search of the countess tomorrow.

Suddenly his reflections were scattered by a sound behind him. Lady Marie had been driving slowly, but now she was tearing down the hill, its head down, its slender feet flying out like a startled deer. It had bolted. Lady Marie was leaning back, the reins wound round her wrists, all her strength exerted in the effort to pull him up; but she was not alarmed, for she was laughing, and her eyes were shining brightly, as they had shone when the boat careened to the water's edge.

"Look out!" she called. "Take care! He has run away!"

Larry waited until the pony came nearly abreast of him, then he ran beside it, caught it by the bit, and quite easily pulled it up.

He had called out a word of warning, but she had disregarded it, and she was thrown forward so violently by the sudden stoppage that her forehead struck the side of the cart. She was dazed for a moment, for she was struck on the temple; then she got up and stepped out. For a moment she stood looking round her in a confused way, her hand went to her temple; then Larry sprang to her and caught her just in time.

For a minute she lay in his arms, her eyes closed, her face deathly pale; then she recovered, and, with a rueful laugh, made to draw away from him; but Larry still held her, his eyes fixed on the cut on the white forehead, which was now flecked with a trickling line of red. His face was as white as hers.

"No—you are hurt!" he said thickly.

"No, no," she said, with a laugh. "It is nothing—nothing whatever."

She was raising her hand to her brow; but he caught the trembling fingers and stopped her.

"Don't," he said, in a low voice that trembled with his anxiety. "It is bleeding. Let me."

He took out his handkerchief, and gently, tenderly wiped the slight wound.

"It was my fault," he said remorsefully. "All my fault. I knew the little beast would bolt—I know the sort. I ought not to have left you, and I pulled him up too suddenly. All my fault."

"Don't—don't be so silly, Larry!" she retorted. "How ridiculous you are! Your fault! Why, if you hadn't been there, we should have been over the edge onto the road beneath! As it is, thanks to you, there is no harm done."

"No harm!" he retorted desperately. "And your forehead cut!"

"It's nothing," she declared. She was still in his arms; and she could feel his heart beating against her bosom, his breath coming painfully on her cheek. "I know it's nothing, though I can't see it, for I don't feel any pain. Why, Larry, it's not like you to make a fuss over a mere scratch." As she spoke she looked up at him, a smile on her lips that still quivered slightly, a

light in her glorious eyes that sent the blood racing through every vein, half blinding him, blotting out the scenery, and drumming in his ears.

"Marie!" broke from him.

She trembled, a divine smile parted her lips, and her eyes half closed, as if she could not bear the fierce love hunger in his.

Then suddenly, as the cold blast sweeps over the mountains, chilling the warmth of the sun, she remembered Philip. Her face, which had been suffused by a faint blush, grew white; a shudder ran through her, and she drew away from his arms.

He thought he understood; that she was offended, outraged by his effrontery; and he stood, his eyes fixed on hers, his lips drawn together tightly.

She, too, stood motionless, her face turned away; and silence reigned between them. He was the first to speak.

"Will you get in again?" he said.

She inclined her head, and he put out his hand to help her in; she held the door for him to follow; but he said:

"No; I will walk beside him." And he went and led the pony, now thoroughly ashamed of itself, and as quiet as a mouse.

She sat looking straight before her. She was still confused by the blow; but though her mind was dizzy, her heart was beating with a distinct joy, an overwhelming happiness, which made her incapable of any other emotion.

He walked on, and did not turn his head until they reached the bridge; then he stopped, and, with downcast eyes, said:

"I think, I'm sure, he's quite safe now; and it is nearly all uphill."

"Oh, yes, yes," she responded, trying to speak lightly. "I can manage him quite well."

While he was still standing, stupidly silent, fighting with his humiliation, striving to find words in which to crave her forgiveness, a man came quickly down the road, and, stopping, bareheaded, beside the cart, held out a letter.

"A telegram, madam," he said. "I saw your ladyship."

"Thanks, thanks," she said quickly. "You may go."

When the man had gone she opened the envelope. The telegram, of no importance, was from her Parisian modiste; but with a woman's quickness she seized the opportunity it gave her.

"You will be glad to hear that the countess is returning," she said. "She will be back this afternoon. Will you come up to the house this evening, and see her, Larry?"

"To tell her that I am coming—that it is important business?"

"I'll tell her," she said.

She still held the pony standing, and her eyes glanced at him sideways. Was he going to let her go without speaking, explaining?

"Well," she said at last, "you'll have your wish this evening. Till then, Larry!"

When she had driven off, he walked down to the inn slowly, with his head bent. What should he do? Ignore the words that had left his lips in the excitement, the anxiety, of the moment; the moment when the sight of the wound on her dear face had destroyed his self-command? Ignore it, and go his way in silence; never to see her again?

His manliness rose in indignant protest against such a course. She was Lady Marie, of Raven Castle, and he was only Larry, the adventurer; but she was a woman and he was a man. He loved her with a love which surely no man had ever before borne for woman; and it was his right to tell her so, though she should meet his declaration with scorn and contempt. Yes, it was his right; and he would go to her after he had seen the countess, and tell her, let the consequences be what they might. Perhaps, after all, remembering past days, their childhood days, she would not be too merciless; but no matter whether she would or not, he would play the man and tell her.

His appetite failed him at dinner, and the kindly hostess hovered about him with sorrow and apprehension in her motherly eyes; and, though she had too much tact to make any remark on his disregard of the dishes she had prepared for him with her own hands, she watched him curiously as he strode up the valley, his pipe tightly clinched between his teeth.

It was a long walk to Normandy; but Larry was so absorbed that he did not notice the distance; and when he came in sight of the great house, he pulled up with a long breath, and surveyed it as a general surveys the fortress he is going to attack in a forlorn hope.

The hall porter, a dignified individual in red livery, received him with deference.

"The countess? Certainly, monsieur. Monsieur is expected. Will monsieur be so good as to step this way?"

Larry was led to a stately drawing-room; and he went to the window and looked down at the valley through which the light of the young moon was shining softly.

He heard the door open, and, turning, saw Marie coming toward him. She was resplendent in evening dress, the glitter of diamonds on her bosom and on her arms; and in the dusky wreath of her dark hair they flashed like fireflies.

She paused as he took a step toward her, and he saw in the subdued light of the wax candles that her face was pale, save for the slight line of red on her white brow.

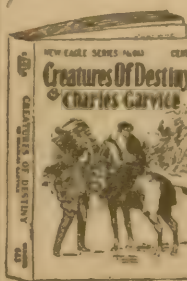
"Lady Marie!" he said. "The countess? Can I see her?"

The long lashes hid her face for an instant; then she looked up at him, a faint, uneasy smile on her lips.

"You see her now, Larry," she said softly. "I am the Countess of Normandy."

TO BE CONTINUED.

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Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

grouched. I hope your James is a nice, well-behaved young man, and as long as you have him I don't see why you need feel so lonesome, and grieve so much over losing your sister for a few weeks. Evidently there is a shortage of sisters in your family, or you would not be so heartbroken. I know a man who has ten sisters, all of them married except nine. He never feels lonely no matter how many of them go away, for there is always a regiment left behind. I am

sorry the absence of your sister almost breaks your heart, but as your father is connected with the cement-plaster company, a few plaster breaks need not bother you, as they could all be plastered up again in a few moments. After you have had your heart broken as many times as I have you will get to quite enjoy the experience. Wait till the idol of your heart walks off with some fresh, dip, freckle-faced blonde, and gives you the cold and clammy throw down, then you'll have a heart break that will be worth talking about and one that all the cement plasters in the world won't patch up for many a long moon. The tragedies of childhood are very real and very terrible, Iva, but they don't amount to anything and are soon forgotten. You say you've had a new room built on your schoolhouse as one room would not "whole" all the children. Whole all the children is immense. Many people write hole for whole, but you are the first one Iva who ever, to my knowledge, used whole for hold. I hope when you get that new room built on your schoolhouse so that it will whole or rather hold you all, you will learn a whole lot more about your mother tongue than you know now. Your mother tongue by the way is your language. Speaking of your sister you say: "I will wait to be parted from her." Maybe when you get that extra room built on the schoolhouse, teacher will have sufficient space to drag in a dictionary or maybe she can tell you without referring to a dictionary that there is no such word as "haft," and any teacher who allows her pupils to use the word "haft" instead of "have" ought to be fined half a year's salary. You say "We live in the country but do not farm my father." I am glad Iva that you are a dutiful, sympathetic child and do not make any efforts to farm father. I know father has to produce a good deal in this world, but I'd hate to see any fond parent converted into a truck garden or a cabbage patch. Most fathers can raise anything from calico to corn, but it's done by applying their labor to the land. The only crop you could get by farming father, that I know of, judging from the down East Yanks is a crop of chin whiskers. I don't think it wise to make any efforts to farm father. You say you don't like to go to parties. That's a strange confession for a young lady to make. Parents should arrange whenever possible to have the young folks of the neighborhood visit at each other's homes. Young people flock to the cities because country life is deadly dull and monotonous. Parents have had their good times and are indifferent as to whether or not their children have any enjoyment. Nothing is so delightful and inspiring and wholesome as to see a bunch of young people under the watchful eye of relatives and parents, playing games and having a glorious good time. All young people are full of life and animal spirits and youth, will, must and should have all the pleasure and enjoyment that can be provided for it. Social gatherings make the young folks more contented with country life, such affairs keep them from getting lonesome and dissatisfied. We want more real social life, more sociability, more opportunities to get acquainted and know one another. All young people are full of animal spirits and the joy of living and every effort should be made to find some wholesome vent for the exuberance of youth. Repression and confinement, stern discipline and harsh words and continual overdoes of religion, preaching and scolding, these are the things that harden children's hearts, and as soon as they grow up, make them take wings and fly off to the cities where they can be free from parental restraint. I am sorry Iva that you do not like parties as that shows a lack of sociability, and is an unusual trait in a child, but possibly as you live in rather an unsettled part of our country, you have not met the nice refined class of boys and girls that would appeal to a young lady of your type. The more you see of nice, well-mannered, Christian people, the more you will like them, love them and want to be with them. Strive to make all the friends you can for remember we are all God's children, all brothers and sisters.

LENA, WIS.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE AND COUSINS:

I have brown hair, dark gray eyes, fair complexion, am about sixty-two inches tall, weigh one hundred and four pounds and am a housekeeper. Mamma took sick Christmas before last and could not do the housework. In spring she felt better, but only worked outdoors, and for the last six weeks, she can't do anything at all, so I have to take care of her and keep house for my papa, two brothers and three sisters. The youngest is three years old. We live on an eighty acre farm ten miles from the town of Lena. The grain was fine last summer. We hadn't very many apples, but of flowers Uncle, we had plenty, for I do love flowers. I have a bed of my own. We have three horses, eight milking cows, ten pigs, two geese, sixty ducks and eighty chickens. We also have a dairy maid cream separator. We separate milk every morning and evening.

I can sew, knit, crochet, spin, cook and bake. I learned to bake bread when I was twelve years old, so it's nearly five years since I can bake it. I can milk cows, drive horses, husk corn and do all kinds of other work. I just love to keep house. I am a great lover of home and children.

My letter is getting long and I must get supper. I will bid you all adieu.

Now cousins, I want you to write to me. I will answer all.

I would like to receive a post-card shower. I will close with best regards and love to Uncle and the cousins. I remain your loving niece,

ANTONIA BORSKE, (No. 35,815.)

Glad to hear from you, Antonia, you are a brave, devoted, hard-working, noble little woman, and I want to thank you now that your mother is sick, for taking care of her and also for taking her place in the home. I hope, however, if your mother's illness is long continued, that your father won't permit you to overtax your strength. Judging from your height and weight you are not over robust, and overwork might quickly make a physical wreck of you. My heart is full of sympathy for the women on the farm, I hold the heart secrets of thousands of them. Child bearing, child rearing, cooking, mending, scrubbing, the strain of nursing during periods of sickness, garden tending, poultry raising, broken rest, constant worry, and all the thousand and one cares and duties that go to make up a woman's life of never-ending toil soon convert women into physical wrecks and starts them on the road to invalidism and death. Then a child of twelve, or fourteen has to take the mother's place and she too, is sacrificed on the altar of toil, and so the endless vicious circle of female slavery goes on and on, grinding out its victims. Sometimes there is a remedy for it, but at other times there is not. The man who knows nothing about the physiology of his own body, or whether his liver is on his right side or his left, or his appendix behind his ear or in his shoes, and who would not know he had a stomach if it were not for the fact that he had to feed his face three times a day in his ceaseless efforts to satisfy a voracious and insatiable appetite, cannot naturally be expected to know anything about the delicate physical organism of a woman. The day is not far distant when no man will be allowed to marry until he knows and understands not only the physiology of his own body but that of the woman he is to wed. When that day comes, women will not be forced to submit to the terrific physical strain and the heavy burden that is now placed on them by man's ignorance, indifference, animalism and lack of knowledge of the ability of the female organism

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to withstand the stress and strain of grinding toll that would kill half-a-dozen ordinary horses. A woman's strength and vitality should be conserved as much as possible, for the healthier the woman the healthier the race. Women who are physically run down from constant work and who have already more burdens than they can carry should not have their burdens added to by being forced to bear and rear children when they already have more than they can properly look after and give attention to. If men would only consider women and their needs, how much suffering and misery would be averted and how much would be added to the sum total of human happiness. Many a woman I know will say Amen to this. Antonia, I hope your mother will soon regain her health, and I fervently hope that the efforts you are making to give her a chance

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 41.)

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Five Wheel Chairs in February

180 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

Well, that looks better, for it is a gain of two wheel chairs over January, and I am more than pleased to announce poor little Flossie Pearl Wright as the recipient of one of the February chairs. She is the brave little ten-year-old girl whose touching letter of appeal I printed in February COMFORT.

Now let us all try to boost the Wheel-Chair Club again this month and see if we can make it a record breaker for the shut-ins.

Following are the names of the recipients of the five February chairs; the figures after each name indicate the number of subscriptions which the friends of each have sent in aid of the Club.

Marcia Tipper, R. 2, Good Springs, Tenn., 83; Lillie Lummus, R. 1, Jackson, Ga., 75; Silas Hafer, Magnolia, Texas, 72; Flossie Pearl Wright, Numa, Iowa, 63; Annie L. Vinson, Margerun, Ala., 57.

Two of these shut-ins are children: Flossie Pearl Wright aged ten as above stated, and Silas Hafer aged nine years.

I call attention to an interesting and gratifying feature of this month's Roll of Honor, which is that some of the largest contributions were from friends of those who have already received their wheel chairs. For instance, Miss Maude Hawthorne, who heads the list, has recently sent 100 more subscriptions to credit of the wheel chair which I sent her friend Mrs. Wyatt last December as announced in January COMFORT. When I gave the chair to Mrs. Wyatt she had 100 subscriptions to her credit, all contributed by Miss Hawthorne who did not stop work, as some do, just as soon as the chair is awarded to the friend in whom she is interested, but kept on and sent 100 more subscriptions to the Club, which go to help other shut-ins get the chairs they are working and waiting for. Likewise Mrs. Rice has sent 68 and Clara L. Cowell 11 subscriptions to credit of Mrs. Parkhurst since I gave the chair to the last named lady in December. So also Mrs. Richards has sent 25 and Ethel Midlam 20 subscriptions to credit of Susie Midlam since I awarded her a chair in January as announced in February COMFORT.

This is as it should be, and it has frequently occurred so before, as you probably have noticed if you have kept watch of the Roll of Honor in previous months.

But I am sorry to say that others who have got a wheel chair for 40 to 60 subscriptions to a shut-in friend have stopped working for the Club just as soon as they accomplished their purpose.

It takes 200 subscriptions from some source for each wheel chair, and when a shut-in gets one for less it means that the rest are contributed by the charity of the Club.

Those who receive the benefit of this charity should show their gratitude by continuing to work and help the Wheel-Chair Club confer like benefits on other shut-ins.

Easter comes in March this year, so let us make the Easter spirit manifest this month by exerting ourselves to the utmost to make it a memorable one for the shut-ins.

Again I have talked so much that there is small space left for the letters of thanks.

Sincerely yours,

W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 new 15-month subscriptions to COMFORT sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premiums to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some worthy, destitute, crippled shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours. Subscription price is 25 cents, but if sent in clubs of five or more for the Wheel-Chair Club, I accept them at 20 cents each.

Her Wheel Chair a Great Comfort to this Confirmed Invalid

VANCEBURG, KY.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE: I received my wheel chair some time ago and am delighted with it. I have been confined to bed for a long time and the doctor says I will never be well again, so you can imagine what a comfort the wheel chair is to me. I want to thank you and Mr. Gannett and all kind friends who helped me get this chair. God bless you all.

Your grateful friend,

MCKINLEY HICK.

Doesn't Know How She Ever Got Along Without Her COMFORT Wheel Chair

ANSONIA, OHIO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE: I received my chair today and I am very proud of it. I can get around in it so nicely, and I don't know how I ever managed to get along without it. I never could find words sufficient to thank you and Mr. Gannett and all who helped me get the chair. May many blessings be yours.

Your friend,

SUSIE MARIE MIDLAM.

Wheel Chair Came as a Christmas Surprise and Brightened Her Life More Than Any Gift She Ever Had

LA LANDY, N. MEK.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE: My sister received her wheel chair a few days ago and is simply delighted with it. She is unable to write her thanks, and wishes me to do so for her. She especially thanks you and all who secured the subscriptions. She knew nothing about the chair until Christmas, and it brightened her life more than any gift she received.

Very gratefully yours,

MRS. J. E. NICHOLSON for MAUDE CARPENTER.

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous. Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

Miss Maude Hawthorne, Texas, for Mrs. Wyatt, 100; Mrs. Joseph Carmichael, Ga., for Lillie Lummus, 75; Mrs. L. Rice, Iowa, for Mrs. Parkhurst, 68; Mrs. W. A. Adams, Texas, for Maude Freeman, 41; Mrs. G. S. Harker, Ark., for Flossie Wright, 40; Mrs. J. C. Aral, Ark., for Ethel Logan, 40; Mrs. Mrs. M. D. Johnson, Mass., for Chas. O'Brien, 34; G. W. Keaton, Tenn., for Marcia Tipper, 32; Mrs. C. S. Cox, Idaho, for any worthy person, 26; Mrs. W. S. Hafer, Texas, for Silas Hafer, 26; Mrs. Bert Richards, Ohio, for Susie Midlam, 25; Mrs. J. H. Woffard, Texas, for daughter, 22; Arthur Dunn, S. C., for Marcia Tipper, 20; Ethel Midlam Ohio for Susie Midlam, 20; Mrs. J. M. Telbert, Texas, for worthy person, 20; Verne Minsus, Texas, for Carson Behringer, 20; Pearl Quiden, Texas, for Carson Behringer, 20; Hattie Woodburn, W. Va., 15; Mrs. Bertha Toothman, W. Va., 15; Josephine McKewin, Mass., for Edith Batchelder, 12; Clara L. Crowell, Iowa, for Mrs. J. Parkhurst, 11; Fletcher McGowan, Tenn., for most needy in Tenn., 11; Mrs. Cuy Wright, Texas, for Mrs. S. A. Bowman, 8; E. T. Norwood, Tenn., for Marcia Tipper, 7; Mrs. C. D. Home, W. Va., 7; Mrs. Webb Smith, Ill., 6; Malinda Freeman, Okla., for Silas Hafer, 6; Mrs. M. E. Kibbler, Ill., 6; Mrs. M. G. St. Anna, Hawaii, 5; Mrs. Fred Smith, Va., 5; Hannah Scott, Oregon, 5; Mrs. James Mason, N. Dak., 5; Mrs. Nellie Galloway, Canada, 5; Mrs. Nina Loomis, Michigan, 5; Mary West, W. Va., 5; Mrs. Jacob Howard, Pa., 5; Mrs. S. B. Tracy, Kans., 5; H. M. Studebaker, Idaho, 5.

The Home-makers' Kitchen Helps

Copyright, 1913, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

Waste Basket

It is necessary to have some receptacle for waste paper in the kitchen because now that everything comes in packages and sacks the rubbish accumulates rapidly. A piece of discarded linoleum may be converted into a neat and useful litter holder. Holes are punched along the edges and at the bottom and top. It is then laced together with fishing line or shoestrings. In laying out the piece to be used, it is well to know that its length will be a trifle more than three times the diameter of the finished basket. The height of the basket will be the same as the width of the piece you use. A piece of oil cloth eighteen inches wide and forty inches long will be about the right size.

FIG. 1.

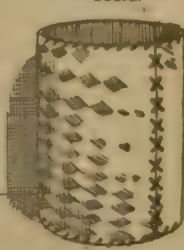


FIG. 2.

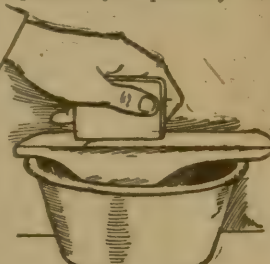


FIG. 3.

KITCHEN REFUSE.

Shaving Soap

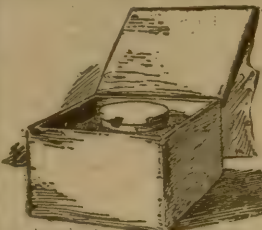
If you have charge of a household which numbers eight or more persons you probably have to shave up several bars of soap each week for the family wash. It is an unhandy job and with a common knife is rarely done right. Here is a method that you will like and that once tried will never be abandoned. Place a plane over a deep dish as shown, and rub the bar of soap against the bit of the plane, while you hold it firmly with the other hand. The shavings will be thin and uniform. The plane must be sharp and otherwise in good condition. The soap will not injure it.



LABOR SAVER.

Cooking Box

The box shown in the cut has some of the properties of a vacuum bottle or of a fireless cooker. It is built in such a way that the escape of heat from anything placed in the center vessel is very slow. The box itself is a common wooden one. First put in your vessel, which should be a good-sized granite one with a tight-fitting cover, then fill in newspaper pulp. This is paper which has been soaked in water until it is like soft soap or jelly. Pack it in like mortar and let it come as high as the granite vessel. The inside of the box cover must also have a two-inch layer of the pulp on it and must fit inside the box sides. When you have an article boiling or sizzling hot, remove it quickly to the boxed up granite vessel, close it and the box and the food will go on cooking for hours. It is fine for keeping stuff warm for a late comer.



RETAINS HEAT A LONG TIME.

Mailing Picture

Here is a plan that may be useful to you. It concerns the mailing of a photograph. In the first place get a cardboard sheet which measures an inch or more longer and wider than your picture. Cut a slot in each corner of the cardboard as in Fig. 1. Slip the corners of the photograph into the slots, and stiffen all by the addition of one or more pieces of heavy paper. The parcel is now held together with rubber bands and wrapped in paper. It is quite impossible for the corners of the picture to be injured by ordinary handling if wrapped in this way.

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FIG. 218.</

Faithful Shirley

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28.)

"Come now," said Madame Marton, as she entered the room where Shirley was busily engaged with her writing, "put away your pen; you are to have a vacation of a week, and during that time you are to be a young lady in high life, and the guest of a lord, under my chaperonage. How does the prospect please you?" Shirley regarded the woman in surprise. She had never known her to indulge in anything like pleasant before.

"I do not think I quite understand you," she replied with a rising blush.

"Well, then, in plain language, when we go to Ivyhurst it is not to be known that you are my companion, but you are to be introduced as the equal of the other visitors there. Now do you understand?"

"But would that be quite honest?" Shirley inquired a little shadow of doubt dimming her clear eyes.

"Fudge, child; do not be such a stickler," was the cool answer. "I want you to have a good time, and I know enough of the world to be very sure that you would be snubbed by some of the so-called bon-ton if it should become known that you are my companion."

There was a moment of silence. Then Shirley turned proudly to her employer.

"In that case, Madame Marton, I would prefer not to go at all," she said in clear, decided tones. "Certain circumstances have conspired to make it necessary for me to earn my own living, but I do not feel that I am in the least degraded by the fact, and if I cannot be received at Ivyhurst on my own merits I would rather remain at home or attend you simply as your companion."

"Put, tut, tut! there isn't any need of your mounting such high stilts," said Madame, patting her softly on the shoulder and chuckling to herself at the same time. "It would be small compliment to me if you did feel yourself degraded by being in my service; but it can do no one any harm if I release you from it for a week or so, and take you under my wing to let you have a good time; eh?"

Tears sprang into Shirley's eyes at this proof of Madame's good will toward her.

"I am sure that is extremely kind of you—," she began.

"Well, well, we won't talk about that now," was the hasty reply. "Lady Wallace has cordially invited you to be her guest for a week, and you will wound her, and his lordship also, if you refuse their hospitality."

"All the same, if anything should chance to be said regarding my relations toward you, I shall frankly acknowledge them," Shirley responded firmly.

"Hump!" ejaculated Madame, with an impatient shrug of her shoulders, then she added, with a twinkle in her eyes: "Your tongue is your own, and you may use it as you choose, so long as you keep it civil to me. Now I want you to let me see what you have in the way of dresses and fol-de-rols. I shall want you to make a fine appearance among the other young folks."

Shirley smiled, while she was filled with astonishment at this sudden interest which Madame manifested in her wardrobe.

She led the way to her room, where, unlocking a trunk which she had not yet unpacked, she laid out for Madame's inspection what few dresses she possessed that were suitable for evening wear.

As has before been stated, Mrs. Livingstone and her daughter had been received into the best society of Colorado Springs, and the fond mother, being very dainty in her tastes, and remarkably expert with her needle, had taken great pains to provide Shirley with pretty if not expensive toilets for the parties and receptions which she attended.

So there were two very dainty white dresses, besides a charming Nile-green and a delicate blue costume, that the young girl laid out for Madame's inspection.

There was not a costly one among them, but they were all beautifully and tastefully made, while a box of laces, ribbons and sashes, which she turned out on the bed beside them, seemed almost as fresh as if they had just come from the store.

"Of course they are a little out of style," she remarked. "Maybe they will do, however, with a little touching up of the trimmings and some new gloves."

"Do!" repeated Madame, as she critically looked them over, "they are as pretty as need be, and you are a lucky girl to have them all ready, while your ribbons and sashes are not spoiled at all!"

"No, mamma always required me to be very careful of my clothing," Shirley said, adding: "I am glad you think the dresses are all right. Of course I cannot expect to vie with Lady Wallace's wealthy and fashionable guests, neither will she expect it of me, but at least I would not like to annoy her by appearing unpleasantly conspicuous."

"Ahem! I guess you'll do," said Madame, (CONTINUED ON PAGE 38.)

STOMACH SUFFERERS

Avoid Dangerous Operations. Let Me Send You a

Free \$1.00 Bottle Of My Wonderful STOMACH REMEDY

I want everyone suffering from STOMACH, LIVER or INTESTINAL TROUBLES, APPENDICITIS and GALL STONES to send at once for a FREE BOTTLE

Don't allow your Stomach Trouble to become so bad that an operation is necessary. Don't permit an operation until you have at least tried this FREE BOTTLE.



IT IS A MARVELOUS REMEDY FOR

Stomach, Liver and Intestinal Trouble, Gastritis, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Pressure of Gas around the Heart, Sour Stomach, Distress after eating, Nervousness, Dizziness, Fainting Spells, Constipation, Congested and Torpid Liver, Yellow Jaundice, Sick Headache, Appendicitis and Gall Stones.

The above ailments are mainly caused by the clogging of the intestinal tract with mucoid and catarrhal accretions, backing up poisonous fluid into the stomach, and otherwise deranging the digestive system. I want every sufferer of any of these diseases to test this wonderful treatment. You are not asked to take this treatment for a week or two before you feel its great benefits—only one dose is usually required. I say emphatically it is a positive, permanent remedy and I will prove it to you if you will allow me to, and I again repeat I will send the complete \$1.00 treatment to you absolutely Free so you can try it in your own home at my expense.

The most eminent specialists declare that a big per cent of the people who suffer from Stomach Trouble are suffering from Gall Stones. I firmly believe that this remedy is the only one in the world that will cure this disease. Sufferers of Stomach and Liver troubles and Gall Stones should not hesitate a moment, but send for this Free treatment at once.

I have watched sick people for years and have reached out my hands to thousands in the great depth of the Valley of Despair and brought them into the light of life and happiness. I want you, and each one suffering to know the full joys of living with every part of your system in beautiful accord and in absolute perfect harmony. This is possible if you will take this wonderful remedy. A FREE BOTTLE will positively prove it.

Don't Lose Hope

Why suffer with stomach trouble? Why give up hope—and despair of ever being cured? If other treatments have failed and you feel disheartened, don't allow it to discourage you from sending for this FREE bottle. Don't say to yourself that it will not help you, before you have tried it, as it costs you nothing to take this wonderful remedy and judge for yourself its marvelous powers. You will, like the thousands of others who have been cured, bless the hour and offer fervent thanks for this wonderful remedy that has brought back your health.

Why suffer with those horrid griping pains that cut like a knife? They rob you of all the sweets of happiness. Each morning means another day of torture and agony, each meal is looked forward to with pain. No matter what you eat, you suffer. Life is one continual round of "Don't eat this and don't eat that." You can't sit down to a table, spread with necessities of life, and know that you are going to enjoy them; that they are going to be turned into rich, red blood and strength which will give you vitality, health and happiness.

Almost every one who takes it declares that they have not felt so well in years since they have taken the first bottle, and this benefit is an entirely natural one, as the remedy contains no opiate, stimulant or any poisonous or injurious ingredients whatever. They are able to eat anything they want—even forget they have such a thing as a stomach. No more of the gnawing, aching dull sensations, no more paroxysms of pain, belching of gases, and other symptoms of indigestion that stomach trouble produces.

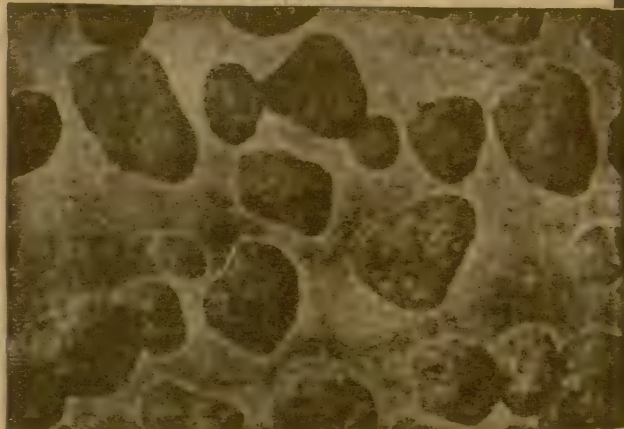
A Few Names of People who have taken My Wonderful Stomach Remedy—and who state they have been CURED of various Stomach, Liver and Intestinal Ailments and Gall Stones.

Phil Strain, Bloomington, Ill.
Alma Loving, Russellville, Miss.
Mrs. Thomas Mulvihill, Detroit, Mich.
Mattie Kirkham, Fountain Head, Tenn.
W. G. Riddell, Burlington, Ky., Ed. No. 9.
Mrs. E. F. Cady, Auburn, N. Y.
H. D. Chappell, Agt. Amer. Exp. Co., Scotland, Archer Co., Tex.
W. H. Kingsley, Beulah, Miss.
J. W. Blackburn, Fryatt, Ark.
Henry Oaks, New River, Tenn.
Henry Thomas, Maun, Miss.
Mr. M. A. McCann, Norwalk, Ohio.
Ralph Johnson, McComb, Miss.
Mrs. Callie Wells, 1123 Harrison St., Guthrie, Okla.
S. B. Allen, Buckeye, W. Va.
Chas. L. Morse, 8 Pearl St., Middleboro, Mass.
W. P. Cole, Medina, Tenn.
Fred Zwicke, Grand Rapids, Wis.
Estelle McAllister, Ludlow, S. D.
B. A. Dooley, 92 Union St., Clinton, Mass.
Mrs. E. C. Daugherty, Conway, Pa., Beaver Co.
Sarah E. Johnson, 1107 Bell St., Mt. Vernon, Ill.
Mrs. D. Burghdoff, 75 Walnut St., Auburn, N. Y.
John Driver, Dunkirk, Ind.
W. D. Barr, 601 Walnut St., Irwin, Pa.
Mr. W. E. Cobb, Wichita Falls, Tex.

My last word to you—Don't permit a dangerous operation. Not until you have tried this FREE BOTTLE. I care not how long you have suffered or how severe your case may be. I am confident my wonderful and harmless remedy will entirely and quickly restore you to perfect health without any ill effect. It has saved thousands from operations. It should you. I believe that eighty per cent of the operations are unnecessary and the knife could be avoided if the proper method of treatment were administered. Quite often sufferers of Stomach and Intestinal ailments or Gall Stones are told they have cancer of the stomach and other rare diseases.

GEO. H. MAYR, Mfg. Chemist,
1126 Mayr Building, 156 Whiting St., Chicago, Ill.
References: Mercantile Agencies or State Bank of Chicago.

Below we show an exact Photograph—actual size of Poisonous catarrhal Mucoid and Bile Accretions removed by my remedy. They are the causes of about 99 per cent of all Stomach, Liver and Intestinal Ailments.



You are not asked to take this treatment for a week or two before you feel its great benefits. One dose is all that is necessary to prove its wonderful powers to CURE.

READ THESE LETTERS

WHAT A PROMINENT PHYSICIAN HAS TO SAY OF MY WONDERFUL STOMACH REMEDY

Sept. 12th, 1911.

Mr. Geo. H. Mayr, Chicago, Ill.
Dear Sir:—My wife received your letter and treatment a few days ago. She took the medicines as per directions Saturday with wonderful results, as she passed a large quantity of gall stones of various sizes. I will send you a money order herewith for balance of treatment. Have recommended you to several that I know need your treatment. I have practiced medicine 20 years and have used Olive Oil treatments for a long time for my wife, and I can assure you that your combination greatly surprised me. You shall hear from me again soon.
Yours gratefully,
ERNEST VINCENT, M. D.

WHAT A TRAINED NURSE HAS TO SAY

Aug. 24th, 1911.

Mr. Geo. H. Mayr, Chicago, Ill.
Dear Sir:—To begin with I am a trained nurse and I had two patients that the doctors seemed unable to reach with their medicines and were trying to persuade the patient to submit to the knife. A friend who has tried your wonderful medicine proposed that I recommend it to my patient, so I did. They agreed to try the medicine if I would try the sample on myself. To please my patients was why I sent for the sample. I know that your medicine is wonderful because it has cured Mrs. Clark Fitzsimmons of Orofino, Idaho, and Mrs. Charley Fear of the same place. I am very glad that I was able to recommend your medicine to them.
LINNETTE HAVEL, Trained Nurse,
Box 284, Orofino, Idaho.

CURED AFTER FIVE YEARS' SICKNESS

Mr. George H. Mayr, Chicago, Ill.
I am pleased to inform you that I ordered a full treatment the latter part of March. It cured me after a five years' spell of sickness. I ordered a free bottle for a neighbor. Now I must tell you it is through me you are getting so many orders from Willard and Kelton Post Offices. I sojourned through Eastern Colorado and sang your praises and left your address wherever I went. I have not written you at an earlier date as I have just waited to see if I stayed cured before I let you know. Your remedy is surely a wonder. The doctors told me I had appendicitis and would soon die if I were not operated on. I was lying in bed about all the time with misery most of the time for five years. I took treatment during March; have been busy ever since. It is the only medicine that hit the sore spot.—L. C. MOREHEAD, Willard, Oklahoma.

Doctor Said Cancer of the Stomach

July 22, 1911.

Mr. Geo. H. Mayr, Chicago, Ill.
Dear Sir:—I write you this morning that I took my last drop of medicine yesterday morning and am now free from gall stones. It has made a new man of me. Sleep well, eat what I want and feel fine. No soreness left but I have some large boils. I think it drove them out. The doctors said I had cancer of the stomach, and nothing would do but to be operated on, but they were mistaken. I have spent lots of money before and only got temporary relief, but I assure you I feel all right now. Passed about 400 gall stones. Yours truly,
WM. CAMPBELL, Denver, Missouri.

More Benefit Than From a \$100 Treatment

May 31, 1910.

Mr. Geo. H. Mayr, Chicago, Ill.
I rec'd the treatment you sent and can truthfully say I got more benefit from it than from a hundred dollar treatment I took last winter. Very respectfully,
MISS F. A. HARNESSE,
1020 Pacific Ave., Bremerton, Wash.

Fill out this FREE coupon now and mail to me. The full \$1.00 bottle will be sent you without delay. Send no money—your name and address on the coupon is all—MAIL IT TODAY—WRITE PLAINLY

GEO. H. MAYR, MFG. CHEMIST, 1126 Mayr Bldg., 156 Whiting St., Chicago, Ill.

Send me absolutely FREE \$1.00 treatment of Mayr's Wonderful Stomach Remedy.

Name

Address

County

State

City

Business Office

Glasses Absolutely Free

Don't Send Me One Cent

when you answer this announcement, as I am going to mail you a brand new pair of my wonderful "Perfect Vision" glasses (known in the spectacle business as "lenses") absolutely free of charge as an advertisement.

As soon as you get them I want you to put them on your eyes, sit down in front of the open hearth one of these cold wintry nights, and you'll be agreeably surprised to discover that you can again read the very finest print in your bible, thread the smallest-eyed needle you can lay your hands on, and do the finest kind of embroidery and crocheting with them on and do it all night long with as much ease and comfort as you ever



did in your life. Or, if you like to go out hunting occasionally, just occasion your gun and go out into the woods some early morning and you'll be greatly delighted when you drop the smallest bird off the tallest tree-top and distinguish a horse from a cow out in the pasture at the greatest distance and as far as your eye can reach with them on—and this even if your eyes are so very weak now that you cannot even read the largest headlines in this paper.

Now Don't Take My Word For It

but send for a pair at once and try them out yourself, and after a thorough try-out, if you find that they really have restored to you the absolute perfect eyesight of your early youth, you can keep them forever without one cent of pay, and

Just Do Me A Good Turn

by showing them around to your friends and neighbors, and speak a good word for them whenever you have the chance.

If you are a genuine, bone-fide spectacle-wearer (no children need apply) and want to do me this favor, write your name, address and age on the below four-dollar coupon at once, and this will entitle you to a pair of my famous "Perfect Vision" glasses absolutely free of charge as an advertisement.

Write name, address and age below.

DR. HAUX

ST. LOUIS, MO.

I herewith enclose this four-dollar coupon, which you agreed in the above advertisement to accept in full and complete payment of a brand new pair of your famous "Perfect Vision" glasses, and I am certainly going to make you stick to that contract.

My age is.....

Name.....

Postoffice.....

R. R. Box.... State.....

\$4 **\$4**

NOTE—The above firm will do everything they promise.

RUBY GORDON or, BACK FROM THE GRAVE

By LIBBIE SPRAGUE PHILLIPS

SPECIAL SALE PRICE with a 3 months' subscription to THE ILLUSTRATED COMPANION ONLY 10 CENTS



This book contains about 60,000 words. Printed from good, clear type. About 25,000 copies have already been marketed at 15c each but we have decided to offer it for a limited time at 10c or with a three months' subscription to The Illustrated Companion for 10c. The story is one of Mrs. Phillips' masterpieces.

RUBY GORDON, a poor orphan girl, becomes engaged to a young man in the town, who is the adopted son and heir of a wealthy recluse. The old gentleman took a great dislike to Ruby Gordon because she reminded him of his wife who had left him years before and had been lost at sea in crossing the ocean; he felt that she was his wife's spirit reincarnated, and forbade Lawrence, his adopted son to marry her, and made so much trouble that the young man finally broke his engagement and married another, but it was not his fate to so easily evade Ruby Gordon, as she was an angelic creature, and sent her for the Book and Paper may read for themselves.

RUBY GORDON, the heroine of this story is one of those sweet pure characters which always characterize Mrs. Phillips' thrilling, unimpaired in Dramatic Intensity. Full of thrilling, unimpaired in Dramatic Intensity. Full of thrilling, unimpaired in Dramatic Intensity.

THE OBJECT OF THIS OFFER is to induce new readers to try The Illustrated Companion 3 months. It is one of the best home papers published. CONTENTS: Stories for Old and Young, many of which are written by Mrs. Phillips, author of Ruby Gordon, a Sermon, Household Notes, Editorials and other instructive departments too numerous to mention. Book without Paper, 1 cent; Book and Paper, 3 cents, 10 cents. Address: F. B. WARNER CO., DEPT. C, 7, 96 CHAMBERS ST., NEW YORK

300 SONGS 10c ON MOON-LIGHT BAY

I'd Love to Live in Loveland; If You Talk in Your Sleep; Oh My Dream Man; Every-body's Down; When I Was 21 and You Were Sweet 16; Is It Very Far to Heaven? After the Honey-moon, I'm Going Back to Dixie; Alexander's Rag-time Band; Oh You Beautiful Doll; Casey Jones; Grizzly Bear; Red Wing; They Always Pick on Me; Put on Your Old Grey Bonnet; Steamboat Bill; Let Me Call You Sweetheart; Roses Bring Dreams of You; Silver Bell; Billy; Mysterious Rag etc. Over 300 Latest Song Hits & 10 pieces PIANO MUSIC for 10c. 3 Books 20c. COOPER MUSIC CO., Box 1, Horton, N. Y.

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Manners and Looks



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Happy-go-lucky, Jacksonport, Wis.—The reading of novels and "love stories" like everything else in this world, will do harm if carried to excess. Make it a rule to read two "solid" books for every light one you read. (2) It is proper to correspond with a proper young man, but girls at home who write to young men should do so with their parents' consent and they should show their letters to their mothers.

Troubled, Basin, Wyo.—The young man did very properly to stand up at his sister's wedding with the girl she had selected, even though you did not wish him to and think he owed his first duty to you. You owe some duty to others, and should not have attempted to introduce a discord in the wedding harmony. You may make trouble with him if you wish, but if you do and he is wise he will let you have the trouble for your pains and refuse to see you any more.

Blonde, Mineral Springs, Mo.—It is not improper for you to keep company with traveling men, if they are unmarried and if you know for sure they are the right kind for you to know. So also you may converse with men who come into the office where you are working, but you should not be familiar with them, nor let the acquaintance extend further, unless you know they are the men you should know.

Sweet 16, Warrensburg, Mo.—When you have finished school will be time enough to "keep company" with your classmates and other young men. The more you know about books now, the better you will know men later. (2) Don't write to young men merely to see how many correspondents you can have.

Wondering, New Rochelle, N. Y.—Etiquette is rather vague on the point you mention, but we rather think that a girl who had been kissed in one of the kissing games so well known and popular in New Rochelle's best circles, would still be entitled to be in the Sweet-sixteen-and-never-kissed class. This classification is based upon the girl's wish, not compulsion.

Doubtful, Fall River, Wis.—You are quite within your rights. If the man to whom you are secretly engaged goes West and you do not hear from him for five months, you are justified in becoming engaged to the young man who was his rival when he went away. Now that the first has returned and declines to give you up and the other declines also, we can offer no advice. You have gone beyond the rules of etiquette, but we can assure you that you need not marry both of them. (2) Custom in Fall River may require the man to supply the girl's trousseau, but it does not elsewhere. Don't ask him to buy your clothes until you are his wife.

Virginia Lou, Mt. Rose, Mo.—We sympathize deeply with you in the sickening social surroundings of Mt. Rose against which you are almost helpless and to escape the torture of your life there, we advise that you move away. Go to Kansas City where society is not quite so strict and where you will be able to go around with a volley of spicy words on your lips and devilishness in your eyes. Also a little brushing up on your grammar and spelling wouldn't hurt.

F. R., Hutchinson, Kans.—If you would prefer to live out of a prison without your children than in it with them, you might get a divorce from your husband. You say he is unbearable. Are you sure he is all to blame? Don't you believe that you made the effort, you could make your home much better than it is? You owe it to your children to stay with them and show by your example that their mother is worthy, though you say their father is not. We should like to hear his side.

Brown Eyes, Sifers, Va.—You owe no apology to the young man who came to your house for the country at nine o'clock drunk and who felt insulted because you refused to see them at that hour in the evening. They owe you an apology and your men folks owe them a thrashing. That may not be etiquette, but it is in the interest of decency. They are not fit acquaintances for any respectable woman.

B. R. J., Lawrence, Kans.—You do not "get introduced to a gentleman." The gentleman is introduced to the lady. If he asks to take you home and you wish him to, you may tell him you will be very glad to have his company. As to what you should say when you want "to have him for steady company," etiquette provides no rules. You must fix that yourself. But such a proposal should come from him, not from you.

B. O., Omaha, Neb.—Girls of fourteen are apt to be silly about the young men and you are no exception though you did have enough of a reason to decline "keeping company" with the young man who saw you were silly and wanted to flirt with you. It was proper enough to let him go home with you having your sister along and it will be proper to visit his home with your brother and sister, but stop thinking about him and dreaming of rich dresses. That is the silly part of it, even when you are older.

Blue Bell, Washington, Pa.—As the young man failed to keep two successive engagements, you are justified in treating him coolly, but don't make another with him, just to break it yourself and so "sting" him as you politely express it. However, he deserves such treatment.

Subscriber, St. Joseph, Mo.—Unless you have an afternoon at home it is not customary to serve anything but casual callers. In some houses, however, the tea urn is always at hand and a cup of tea is offered, unless the call is very brief. During the long evening call, some refreshment, other than mental, is always appreciated. Cold drinks of some kind and cake or fruit or a bit of cheese and cracker with ginger ale or beer did in very nicely. Some hostesses, though, never serve anything in the evening. (2) It is proper to leave your card when calling, and in formal society a card is left for each person called on in the house.

M. J., Pennellville, N. Y.—If upon introduction the person you meet says he or she is glad to meet you, you may thank him or her and add that the pleasure is not yours as well. Anything pleasant that you may think of to say is quite as good form.

Mary, Cyclone, Ind.—The fact that the young man whom you have known for eight years, was sued for breach of promise and paid off seven years ago, is no reason why you should not marry him now if you love him. As the other girl is married, there is hardly any chance of further trouble. If both of you are satisfied, what difference what the people say? You are doing the proper thing to marry and can stand on that.

Rose, Pember, Ohio.—If you and your friend join in making a wedding present both of your names should be on the card. If either one gives it, only the name of the donor goes on the card. If you know the recipient quite well, you may write any pretty sentiment you please on the card. So with the card for the shower.

Gray Eyes, Mt. Victory, Ky.—Unless you are engaged to the young man he has no right to ask you not to write to other young men you know. Still if you think more of him than of all the others and he wants you to forsake them all for him, you may do so. At the same time don't you think he is asking a great deal for one who has no claim on you and hasn't the nerve to make the claim? If you are wise you will not give up all for him until he gives up all for you. (2) You are under no obligations to recognize any of his kin who are not respectable people.

Forsaken, Washington, Va.—It was extremely bad form for you to have fallen in love with him the first moment you met him and we are not surprised that

when you went away for four months he never wrote you a line. It is quite proper for you to continue loving him if you want to, and quite as proper for him to continue snubbing you. You have more to learn than he has, but you'll learn if you live long enough.

Puzzled Boy, Goshen, Ark.—It is the accepted rule that an engaged girl should be kissed by the man of her choice and should also want to be kissed. If she does not, then she must be very unusual—so unusual indeed, that we should hesitate to marry her if she were our fiancée. An engaged girl need not engage in a riot of kisses, but osculation in moderation is eminently proper and natural.

Jennie, Flora, Ill.—Really good-mannered people are not conscious of their manners. Now you are calculating whether to be one thing or some other thing for the impression you may make. Stop it and be natural. Be pleasant and friendly if that is natural, and if people choose to misconstrue your friendliness, your conduct will prove them to be wrong and you right. (2) Encourage the bashful man, but first be sure that he is bashful and be sure not to be too encouraging.

E. M., Smithfield, Neb.—The young man is a sneak, for no gentleman who will go walking with a lady who thinks he loves her, but when anybody says anything to him about her he says something to make her feel mean. Instead of waiting to learn how to win his love, she should want to learn how to despise him.

Subscriber, Bailey, La.—It may be good manners for a sixteen-year-old boy still in short pants to go to see a girl whom he loves and who loves him, but it is not common sense. Suppose you wait till you put on men's clothes and acquire a bit more inside your head than you have outside of it. (2) It is proper for a sixteen-year-old boy to go driving with a fourteen-year-old girl, if you have your nurses along to take care of you.

Curly, Albany, Oregon.—When a young lady is talking to two young men in ordinary conversation, and one of them takes her unawares and kisses her, he commits a breach of etiquette which deserves the lady's lasting contempt, and he should not be further recognized. If, however, they are "sky-larking," as the saying is, then she may be angry for the moment and forgive him, because she is partly to blame.

Clellen H., Paris, Ill.—A gentleman escorting a lady to the theater always lets her precede him to their seats, and it may be that he will sit on her left or on her right. He leads the way down the aisle to the seats and there steps aside for her to go into the row, in advance. When he takes her home she should ask him to call again, though some ladies think the man should ask if he may call.

E. P., Sparta, Tenn.—You should not say anything to the girl to get acquainted with her, because it is bad form to speak to a lady whom you do not know. Have some friend of yours and hers introduce you in the usual manner which is the proper manner.

Anxious, Donnybrook, S. Dak.—It is careless of a young man to come two, hundred and seventy-five miles to see his best girl and run out of money and have to borrow enough from her to get home again. As he is well-to-do, however, and pays back promptly, he should be forgiven and taught to be more business-like. Especially if he spent his money on the girl.

Anxious, Woodville, Wis.—Yes, we think it would be rather silly for you to show any resentment when you visit in the young man's state because he did not reply to your card, or note. You are too sensitive and should regard his failure to write merely as an oversight. Be polite as usual when you meet him, but don't be so anxious to write to him again. Let him be the anxious one.

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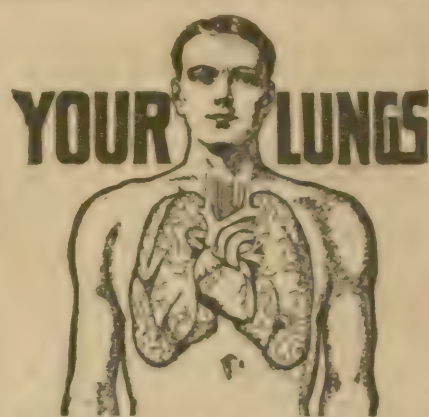
PRESTO COFFEE MAKER

No Trouble to Make One Full Cup for Each Minute You Wait. And No More "Muddy" Coffee Either by Using One of These New Scientific Coffee Makers. Better Known in the Cities as Percolators. This is the best and quickest way of making coffee and will make your family and friends stand up and take notice.

This Percolator is large enough to hold six cups of coffee, and is made of nickel with black ebony finished handle (which never gets hot) and there are no complicated parts to get out of order. It is very simple, clean and no trouble. The coffee makes itself by using hot water in five or six minutes or with warm water in less than ten minutes. For breakfast use heaping desert-spoonful finely ground coffee to a cup. Fill the Percolator with necessary water, put coffee in cup in Percolator, put on cover and set on stove and in a few minutes you will have a real, rich, clear, healthful coffee that will start you in the day rejoicing.

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Do you have night sweats?
Have you pains in chest and sides?
Do you spit yellow and black matter?
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Do you have pains under your shoulder blades?

These are Regarded Symptoms of Lung Trouble and CONSUMPTION

You should take immediate steps to check the progress of these symptoms. The longer you allow them to advance and develop, the more deep seated and serious your condition becomes.

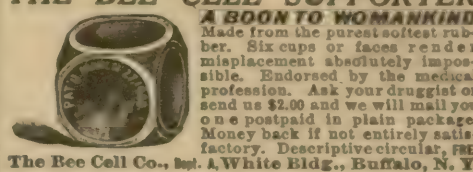
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Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one month.

NOW we come to the first month of spring, but the spring does not come very warmly to us yet a while, does it? At least not to those of us who don't live in the Sunny South. Still we can feel that spring is not far away and we begin to look forth to see the buds and the coming green and to sense the new life that fills the air. It is a glorious feeling, too, and we should be glad of spring for that if for nothing more. I know all of us feel good when we think the frosts and the snows have left us and we will have no more shivering to do until next winter anyhow. Spring is no time to work when the fever is on, but work hath all seasons for its own, so here's to it, my dears.

The first letter I take up is from Troubled Beth of Neodesha, Kans. who is troubled because she has a sweetheart who wants to kiss her and put his arm around her, and she likes for him to, but her mother says she mustn't, and she wants to know why she mustn't. I can't very well explain here why she mustn't, but mother is right and she should trust her mother rather than her own feelings. (2) Long engagements, that is over a year, are not desirable, but if two young people want to wait, then each other they can have an understanding and wait without being formally engaged.

M. O. M., Grafton, W. Va.—You say he is a good man and would make a good husband and you don't want to lose him. My dear, do you call a man good who without a word of explanation quit going to see a girl to whom he has been attentive for six months and pays no more attention to her than if she were a stick of wood? Do you think that kind of a man would make a good husband? Well, I don't, and if I were you, I would be glad he had proved himself before I married him. You could not help being unhappy if you were the wife of such a man. Not big unhappiness, either, that you might free yourself from by the law, but the wearing, killing little unhappiness that you never could get away from unless you killed yourself. Now, my dear, get some sense and cheer up.

One-in-trouble, Atlanta, Ga.—I'm sorry that you sent the young man away because you thought you owed more to your father and family. You should have left the burden to your sisters whose duty was no less than yours and they had no sweethearts. I don't see what you can do now, if your sisters are not acting as they should, and your sweetheart is lost, except to get away from them all and make your own living. As you have been the family slave for eleven years a vacation and rest are due you.

Troubled, Denver, Colo.—You are right, my dear, in saying you will never "marry a jealous man," but really, you shouldn't spell it that way. In the meantime, endure your mother's bad temper until you have finished your Business College course, and then you can live to yourself and be independent. Girls nowadays don't have to marry unless they want to.

Heart-broken, Montgomery, N. Y.—Go on living without him, as you have done since you found that he was engaged to another, and by and by you will begin to be very glad, indeed, that a two-faced man like he is is the other girl's husband and not yours. It is supremely foolish to break your heart on a worthless object.

Black Eyes, W. Hoboken, N. J.—As he loved you once when you were a child, and he knows your own heart, and you drifted away from him only to learn now that you may lose him forever, I think it would be quite right for you to have a little explanatory talk with him and find out if his love has grown cold. He is a good friend yet, and family he is more than that, if the old spark should be rekindled. Try it, but be very careful not to throw yourself into his arms and tell him you love as you say you feel like doing. That would frighten him away for good.

Discouraged Marie, Malden, Mo.—Don't give him up yet. He gave you a ring for Christmas, and even if you have not seen him since, he cannot forget the ring he gave you, even though he may forget you.

Heart-broken, Plattsburg, N. Y.—Don't marry the man you don't want because you can't marry the man you do want. At sixteen you can well wait five years until Cupid gets his balance.

Puzzled, Rudyard, Md.—Maybe you cannot "banish" the young man from your mind, but if you could banish him as successfully as you banish the rules of spelling, your heart would be at rest, I am sure. Try it.

Q. V. L., Valcour, N. Y.—Too late, too late. You enraged him and drove him from you, and now that he is engaged to another, you want him back. You should have thought of this earlier, my dear. Now you must suffer for your conduct.

Undecided, West Chazy, N. Y.—Don't marry either while you are undecided. Better have two half way ideals to dream over, than one entire reality that is a nightmare.

Dixie Queen, Tollhouse, Cal.—What is money compared with true love and willingness to work? Nothing at all, Dixie, and don't you let Rowland go because your mercenary parents want you to marry a detestable person of wealth.

Puzzled, Milan, Mich.—My dear, my dear, it does not happen any oftener to poor girls than it does to rich girls that "they cannot have just the fellow they want." It is the common lot of woman when it happens that way, and it happens more times than we ever know about. When it does happen, the woman must take strength and do the best she can to make up the loss. Either to marry and become a good wife to some man who loves her, or to remain unmarried

and make everybody love her by the beauty of her life. You may choose which you prefer.

Daisy and Sunshine, Harvard, Neb.—You may think he thinks you are the best girl in your town, Daisy, but he doesn't because if he did, he would not be going with other girls. He can say things much easier than he can do them. And, Sunshine, don't wear any young man's ring, unless it is an engagement ring. Lots of girls do, but it looks to me too much like a sign of ownership when there isn't any ownership.

Lonely, Detroit, Mich.—Don't take the kiss too seriously, my dear, seeing that you did not bestow it, but it was stolen. At the same time, hold fast to your belief that promiscuous kissing is vulgar and cheapen any girl who indulges in it. Treat the young man who kissed you with politeness because your people like him, but let him and them see that you are a girl of character by declining his attentions and refusing ever to be alone with him again. Girls and women are too easy in these modern-ideas days and men presume upon it. Show them you are different.

B. E., Muskogee, Okla.—As your parents refuse to see the man you love and who wants to marry you, and they have no objections to him except that he is divorced and is fifteen years older than you, I think you will be wronging yourself and him to give him up on account of your parents' objections. As he was not the offender in the divorce that objection should not be an obstacle and fifteen years' difference in ages, with him only thirty-four, is still less an obstacle. In addition as he is a man of good character and you are in love with each other I think you would be wise to take the risk. It would be better to wait until you are twenty-one and by that time your people might give their consent and twenty-one is a better age for a girl to marry at than nineteen.

There, my dears, I have answered all your questions, except those not for me to answer, and while I have been a little sharp at times, the edge will do good no harm. Now run along and enjoy yourselves until we meet again and the good Lord take care of us all. By, by.

COUSIN MARION.

Stops Tobacco Habit

Elders' Sanitarium, located at 698 Main St., St. Joseph, Mo., has published a book showing the deadly effect of the tobacco habit, and how it can be stopped in three to five days.

As they are distributing this book free, anyone wanting a copy should send them their name and address at once.—Advertisement.

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"Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam, Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home!"

Then the full score of words and music is printed on reverse sheet on each of the following subjects, making seven very appropriate and pretty pictures in all, and seven complete songs as well, on sheets 10 1/2 by 14.

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"Lead, kindly Light, amid th' encircling gloom, Lead Thou me on; The night is dark, and I am far from home, Lead Thou me on."

Cottage by the Sea

"Childhood's days now pass before me, Forms and scenes of long ago Like a dream they hover o'er me, Calm and bright And the quiet shadows falling, softly come and softly go."

You Can Secure the Entire Lot of Above Songs Free.—COMFORT readers can but appreciate the fact that these are all familiar old songs and we know many will want the entire assortment, and after you once get them and see how beautiful the illustrations really are you will advise your friends to send for a set also.

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Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Rock of Ages

"Rock of ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee; Let the water and the blood, From Thy wounded side Which flowed."

Sweet and Low

"Sweet and low, Sweet and low, Wind of the Western sea, Low, low, breathe and blow, Wind of the Western sea."

Old Oaken Bucket

"How dear to this heart are the scenes of my childhood, When fond recollections present them to view;"

In the Gloaming

"In the gloaming, oh, my darling! when the lights are dim and low; And the quiet shadows falling, softly come and softly go."

COMFORT has just obtained a series of good old Songs and besides furnishing you with the words and music complete on separate sheets there is an appropriate and highly colored picture with each Song. Not only do these pictures portray the sentiment of the Song as suggested in small reproduction in above cut, but each one being the highest work of the illustrator's art and embellished in gold is suitable for framing and hanging on the wall of any room. The first lines of each song are printed in an attractive panel underneath the title of the picture as shown here.

Home Sweet Home

Rock of Ages

Sweet and Low

Lead Kindly Light

Cottage by the Sea

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**A BABY DOLL AND A DOLL
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Bright red stockings and black shoes, either very young or older children. You get one of these dolls and you are sure that the nose can't be broken off, nor can baby pass to the next one; the bright colored cheeks and ruby lips retain their color and shape for all time. Every child delights to have from one to twenty different kinds of dolls in their family. Bright inventors, artists, and mechanics have been at work for years trying to perfect low-priced, jointed, indestructible dolls that can be made to sit down, bend over, stand on their heads, move arms and legs, and be placed in all sorts of comfortable positions, either when dressed or undressed. The doll shown in this ad, the painted, is a most wonderful and successful result of long, weary trials. They are beautifully finished, and can be placed in any natural position. Will last for years. Are more lifelike than anything ever gotten out before. For hours and hours every child will play with these good old grandma style, unbreakable stuffed dolls, even putting aside the very expensive and more elegantly silk

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We will give you two dolls for the former price of one. With each Twenty Inch Doll we will give you an extra doll absolutely free. The seven inch baby dolls included with the Big Dolls, and some have some new fea-

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small**, a 25¢ set, **Three large and
Three small**. It always shows a subscriber to COMFORT you
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Mrs. J. F. Poulson, N. Y., (3rd prize doubled)	20.00
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Hannah Bonfield, Canada, (5th prize doubled)	6.00
Mrs. Francis D'Arcy, Wash., (6th prize)	2.00

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The Following 100 Women Received a Consolation or Special Prize of One Dollar Each for January

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Tompkins, Cal.; Mrs. Dell Kline, Conn.; Mrs. Anna
E. Hopper, Ind.; Mrs. M. M. Street, Mo.; Mrs. J. T.
Myer, N. Y.; Emma Hooper, N. Y.; May Robinson,
N. Y.; Mrs. N. P. Devane, N. C.; Miss Emma Gerwig,
Ohio; Mrs. C. N. Lynn, Ohio; Matilda E. Senne,
Kans.; Mrs. E. Rynan, Mont.; Mrs. E. R. Rader,
N. Y.; Mrs. Alice E. First, Ohio; Lulu Byrum, N.
C.; Mrs. D. W. Smith, Okla.; Myrtle Leatherwood,
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Ky.; Mrs. Pearl Smith, Okla.; Mrs. Ruth Aiken,
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Mrs. L. D. Love, Ark.; Mrs. F. R. Stoddard, Cal.;
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Myrtle Hinton, Kans.; Mrs. L. Lange, Ark.;
Hanson, Iowa; Mrs. Neily Hooper, Kans.;
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Zetta Johnson, Ky.; Mrs. Alice Warner, Minn.;
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Mrs. B. E. Sadler, Mo.; Mrs. Dora Bradley, Mo.; Mrs.
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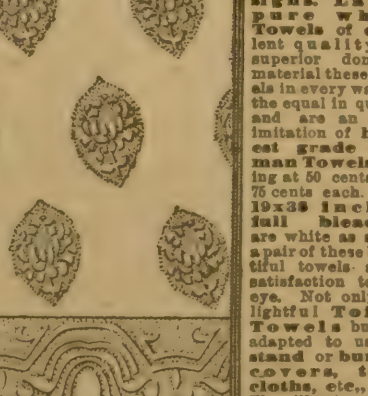
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Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions addressed to this Bureau. They will thus save time, labor and postage.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this Bureau and of all other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given any inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

J. A. S., Bridgeport, Conn.—Goldstone is technically a mineral, which is a form of translucent quartz filled with yellow mica spangles. It is found in Arizona and New Mexico, particularly. There is also an artificial glass goldstone made in Venice by a method originating in Spain.

X. Y. Z., Oldham, S. Dak.—Unless you have some clue from which to work, it will be impossible to find the birthplace and records of any member of your family in Canada or in this country. Such records probably exist, but unless you know where to go, you will have to hunt over the records of every town and county seat and they number far up in the thousands and are thousands of miles apart.

Wishing-to-know, Williams, Ariz.—If you, or any COMFORT reader, have on your lands any mineral with which you are not acquainted and which may be valuable, you may have its value determined by sending specimens to your state geologist or to Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C. Such information will be reliable and will cost nothing for analysis. Send specimens by parcel post.

I. N. S., Santa Rosa, Cal.—Mercury, or quicksilver, is the only metal which is fluid at ordinary temperatures, and it can be solidified by extreme cold, about forty degrees below zero. If you can discover a method of solidifying it for commercial purposes your fortune is made. According to our books its specific gravity is 13.6, not 15.6 as you give it.

S. H. H., New Castle, Pa.—The industry of raising skunks has not proved to be extremely remunerative, though there may be a few skunk farms left. Write to A. H. Simpson, Winchester, Ky., for information, enclosing postage for reply. There was a skunk farm at that place several years ago. The same amount of time, money and labor put in on raising beef cattle would be more profitable.

Mrs. L. L. Winters, Texas.—The best and cheapest school teachers that we know of are those connected with the various Y. M. C. A. gymnasiums. There tuition is practically free, though the pupil must be a member of the Association. There is, or should be, a Y. M. C. A. in every Texas city. Write to the Superintendent of that one nearest to you.

C. O. E., Lansing, Ark.—"Titanic" is pronounced with the "i" in the first syllable. "Meningitis" is sometimes pronounced "meningitis," but the preference is for the long "i".

F. M., Trumansburg, N. Y.—The duties of a governess are to teach the children of her employer the primary branches, and sometimes French, to instruct them in language and deportment and to look after their mental and moral improvement generally. The better the education, the more capable the governess, and if she is a born lady, she is that much better for the children. The duties of a private secretary are various, some being very onerous and important, and some being not more than a mere stenographer and typewriter. The pay varies accordingly. Ordinarily a woman secretary is little more than a stenographer. Again, the better the education, the more capable the secretary.

Mrs. J. A. J., Lincoln, Neb.—To start business on a small capital, such as poultry raising or market gardening, you must first get your farm as near a market as possible, and land will be more expensive, but you can make up that difference in convenience to markets. A husband and wife both interested in working should be able to do very well at anything of that kind they would undertake. A small farm near Portland, Oregon, or one in New Jersey, not far from New York, we think, would be better than one in Arizona where large cities are not numerous. The Oregon climate is mild, but damp; New Jersey is variable, and Arizona is hot and dry. You can tell nothing, definitely, though until you give the country a trial. It seems to us that a small place outside of Lincoln or Omaha, if properly handled, would pay about as well as any, unless it is necessary for you to get to a milder climate. People who are failures in one place are pretty generally failures wherever they go, though of course some do change with changed conditions.

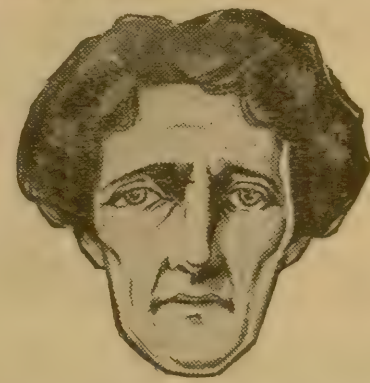
School Girl, Dyersville, Iowa.—School laws vary in different states and we haven't the laws with us, but generally speaking we should say that an eighth grade graduate could teach in Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri, Illinois or any other state, if she were of sufficient age, if she could pass the teachers' examinations and there was a need of teachers. For the benefit of a good many COMFORT readers who aspire to become teachers we want to say that the questions most of them ask us about indicate that they would be very poor teachers if by any chance they got a school. Persons who know enough to be good teachers don't go away from home to think about school matters they should know before thinking of becoming teachers.

J. F. S., Hicksville, O.—For information concerning lands and the listing of them, if we understand your question, write to Commissioner of the Land Office, Washington, D. C.

R. B. H., Camargo, Okla.—Why not go into the U. S. Navy as able seaman? They want young

LET US MAKE YOU FAT 50c Box Free

We Want To Prove at Our Own Expense That It Is No Longer Necessary to Be Thin, Scrawny, and Undeveloped.



This is a generous offer to every thin man or woman who reads COMFORT. We positively guarantee to increase your weight to your own satisfaction or no pay. Think this over—think what it means. At our own risk, we offer to put 10, 15, yes, 30 pounds of good, solid "stay there" flesh on your bones, to fill out hollows in cheeks, neck or bust, to get rid of that "peaked" look, to rejuvenate and revitalize your whole body until it tingles with vibrant energy; to do this without drastic diet, "tonics," severe physical culture "stunts," detention from business or any irksome requirements—if we fail it costs you nothing.

We particularly wish to hear from the excessively thin, those who know the humiliation and embarrassment which only skinny people have to suffer in silence. We want to send a free 50-cent package of our new discovery to the people who are called "slats" and "bean-poles," to bony women whose clothes never look "anyhow," no matter how expensively dressed, to the skinny men who fail to gain social or business recognition on account of their starved appearance. We care not whether you have been thin from birth, whether you have lost flesh through sickness, how many flesh builders you have experimented with. We take the risk and assume it cheerfully. If we cannot put pounds and pounds of healthy flesh on your frame we don't want your money.

The new treatment increases the red corpuscles in the blood, strengthens the nerves and puts the digestive tract into such shape that your food is assimilated and turned into good, solid, healthy flesh instead of passing through the system undigested and unassimilated.

It is a thoroughly scientific principle, this Sargol, for building up the thin, weak and debilitated without any nauseous dosing. In many conditions it is better than cod liver oil and certainly is much pleasanter to take. Send for the 50-cent box to-day. Convince us by your prompt acceptance of this offer that you are writing in good faith and really desire to gain in weight. The 50-cent package which we will send you free should be an eye-opener to you. We send it that you may see the simple, harmless nature of our new discovery, how easy it is to take, how you gain flesh privately without knowledge of friends or family until you astonish them by the prompt and unmistakable results. We could not publish this offer in COMFORT if we were not prepared to live up to it. It is only the astounding results of our new method of treatment that make such an offer and such a guarantee possible on our part. So cut off the coupon to-day and mail it at once to The Sargol Company, 120 Herald Bldg., Binghamton, N. Y., and please enclose 10c. with your letter to help pay distribution expenses. Take our word, you'll never regret it.

Free Sargol Coupon

This certificate, with ten cents to help pay postage and distribution expenses, entitles the holder to one 50-cent package of Sargol, the Flesh Builder. The Sargol Co., 120 Herald Bldg., Binghamton, N. Y.

OPIUM

or Morphine Habit Treated. Free trial. Cases where other remedies have failed, specially desired. Write particulars for Harris Treatment, Suite 565 No. 400 W. 23d St. New York

IF WE would give you a 40 acre farm free, along our line of railroad, would you be willing to tell your friends about our land opening? For particulars address Mr. J. B. Clark, Land Commissioner, Oak Park & Gulf Railroad Company, Box 180, LIVE OAK, FLORIDA.



SOLID GOLD This Fine ENGRAVED NICKEL-FINISH WATCH and SOLID GOLD RING, upon for selling 12 25c boxes MERIT BLOOD TABLETS and returning us \$3.00 in 30 days. Your choice EITHER WATCH or RING for selling SIX Boxes and returning \$1.50 in 30 days. MERIT MEDICINE CO. Room 816 CINCINNATI, OHIO.

FITS

I made a life-study of Fits, Epilepsy, or Falling Sickness and cured cases afflicted since childhood. I will PAY EXPRESS-AGE ON FREE TRIAL BOTTLE IF YOU CUT OUT AND RETURN this advertisement in your letter. Prompt relief. Write today. Dr. F. Harvey Roof, Dept. 782, STATION N., NEW YORK.

FREE TO YOU! A Full Fifty-cent box of Dr. Coonley's famous ORANGE LILY

if you have never tried this wonderful remedy before. ORANGE LILY is a thoroughly reliable remedy for the local treatment of Diseases of Women, such as Suppressed, Irregular and Painful Menstruation, Congestion, Inflammation and ulceration of the Womb and Ovaries, etc. Do not wait, delay only brings on more complications, until your case may become INCURABLE. SEND FOR IT TO-DAY! IT WILL NOT COST YOU ONE CENT. Address Ladies Department The COONLEY MEDICINE CO., Inc., 205 Cass St., DETROIT, MICH.



SWEETHEART STAMPING OUTFIT. 80 NEW DESIGNS ON TWELVE SHEETS BOND PAPER.



Every design distinctly perforated to give a clear working pattern on most any material. Our tremendous success with other Stamping Outfits makes us realize the importance of very careful preparation of this new Outfit, and we believe you will be delighted with our effort. Great care has been exercised in selecting the patterns, and we present the following list of the many designs embraced in the SWEETHEART OUTFIT. 1 Pillow Top design, size 18x18 inches; 3 Different styles of ladies' collars; 1 Round pincushion; 1 Design for nightdress; 3 Vase designs for shirtwaist and skirt; 1 Gown design, 18x18 inches; 1 Dolly design, size 3x3 inches; 3 Sideboard or bureau scarf designs; 1 Violet design; 1 Shirtwaist design for eyelet and solid embroidery; 1 Baby cap; 1 Baby cape; 1 Pair of shoes; 2 Designs for handkerchiefs; 1 Ladies' Belt; 1 Table-cover design; 1 Corset cover design; 1 Shirtwaist design; 3 Designs for hemstitched scarf, etc.; 1 Tray Cloth design for eyelet and solid embroidery; 1 Spray of violets for hemstitched squares, etc.; 1 Spray each of daisies, etc.; 1 of roses; 1 of carnations and violets; 3 Borders for lingerie; 1 Misses' Dutch Collar design; 1 Complete set Initials, 3 in. high, suitable for bed linen, etc.; 1 Complete set Initials, 1-2 in. high, old English for table linen, etc.; 1 Centerpiece, size 12x12 inches, for solid embroidery; 1 Centerpiece, size 6x6 inches, for French eyelet embroidery; 2 Border designs for towels or pillow ends; 2 Border designs for lingerie, etc.; 1 Bowknot design; 1 Border design for table cover; 1 skirt panel design; 2 Butterfly designs; 1 Bird design, size 2 1/2x3 1/2 inches; 1 American Flag; 1 English Flag; 3 Leaf designs; 1 Corner design for pillow top; 1 Opera Bag design; 1 Poppy design, size 3x4 inches; 2 Small border designs; 2 Anchor designs for sailor suits; 1 Star design for girls' dresses; 2 Vase designs for ladies' hose; 1 Large butterfly; 1 Daisy design, and many others. This is an entirely new outfit, with new designs and new ideas throughout, gotten up exclusively for COMFORT. It represents the latest productions, also we have used highest quality white bond paper, paid particular attention to the careful perforation of every sheet, adding free a seven inch embroidery hoop, a piece of stamping preparation and one felt pad. With each Outfit we also include free a copy of "Stitches in Embroidery" by Mme. Du Parquet invaluable to all needleworkers. You can unhesitatingly send for this Outfit with all assurance of entire satisfaction.

Club Offer: Send only two subscribers to COMFORT at 25c each for 15 months, for one SWEETHEART STAMPING OUTFIT post-paid as shown and described. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Are You FAT?
I Was ONCE.
I Reduced MYSELF.

I was Fat, Uncomfortable, Looked Old, Felt Miserable, suffered with Rheumatism, Asthma, Neuralgia. When I worked or walked, I puffed like a Porpoise. I took every advertised medicine I could find. I Starved, Sweated, Exercised, Doctored and changed climate but I ruined my digestion, felt like an invalid but steadily gained weight. There was not a single plan or drug that I heard of that I did not try. I failed to reduce my weight. I dropped society, as I did not care to be the butt of all the jokes. It was embarrassing to have my friends tell me I was getting Stout, as no one knew it better than myself.

SOMETHING HAD TO BE DONE

I began to study the cause of FAT. When I discovered the cause I found the remedy. The French Method gave me an insight. I improved on that. Removed the objectionable features, added more pleasant ones, and then I tried my plan on myself for a week. It worked like Magic. I could have

SCREAMED WITH JOY

at the end of the first week when the scales told me I had lost ten pounds by my simple, easy, harmless, Drugless Method. It was a pleasure then to continue until I regained my normal self in size. I feel fifteen years younger. I look fifteen years younger. My Double Chin has entirely disappeared. I can walk or work now. I can climb a mountain. I am normal in size. I can weigh just what I want to weigh. I am master of my own body now. I did not starve, but eat all I wanted to. I did not take Sweat Baths. I did not use Drugs. I used no Electricity, or harmful exercises, but I found the Simple, Safe, Common Sense WAY of reducing my weight and I applied it. I have tried it on others. My Doctor says I am a perfect picture of health now. I am no longer ailing. I am now a happy, healthy woman. Now I am going to help others to be happy. I have written a book on the subject. If you are fat, I want you to have it. It will tell you all about my Harmless, Drugless Method. To all who send me their name and address I mail it FREE, as long as the present supply lasts. It will save you Money, Save you from Harmful Drugs, Save you from Starvation Diets, Harmful Exercises, possibly save YOUR LIFE. It is yours for the asking without a penny. Just send your name and address. A Postal Card will do and I'll be glad to send it so that you can quickly learn how to reduce yourself and be as happy as I am. Write today as this advertisement may not appear again in this paper.

HATTIE BIEL, 824 Barclay, Denver, Colo.

Have You a Pet Dog?

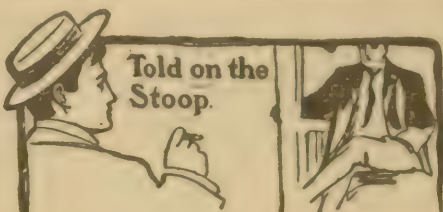


Have You a Pet Cat?



Have You a Pet Horse?

If you have or would like to have either one or all of these Pets, you will be interested in what follows. We have produced at great expense a magnificent set of colored pictures, consisting of two of the dearest little kittens you ever saw, one white and the other tortoise shell, four beautiful dogs and two very beautiful horses. If you are fond of either cats, dogs or horses, these pictures will please you very much. They are beautiful enough to frame, as they are lithographed in bright attractive colors and are copies of originals which cost a great deal of money, so in getting these eight pictures you get practically the same pleasure as you would have if you had the originals, costing one hundred times as much. The names of the kittens are Tom and Floissie. The names of the horses are Bill and J. W. The names of the dogs are Sport, Bob, Jack and Duke. These may not be the names of any of your pets, but you are almost sure to find that they look just like your own little kitty, or your own little dog, or your own dear old horse. Now in order to get this beautiful set of pictures, all you have to do is to get us one new 15 months' 25-cent subscriber to COMFORT, so if you want them get one of your friends to subscribe and we will send them to you for your trouble. If you are already a subscriber, send us 25 cents and 10 cents extra, 35 cents in all, for a renewal for 15 months, and we will send you the entire set free. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Concerning Trotters

"Some people," said the man with a diamond horseshoe scarpin, "seem to think that because the automobile has come to stay and there are strict laws against track gambling, that the days of the fast horse are about over, but I beg to differ. Prices of horses are higher now than they ever were and 1912 was the record season for trotters entering the 2.10 class, there being 54 of them. In August, 1884, Jay Eye See started the list when he trotted in 2.10 at Providence, R. I., and next day, Maud S. made it in 2.09 1/2 at Cleveland, Ohio. That was the record for some time and in nine years only half-a-dozen trotters got to 2.10 or under. Then in 1892 came the bicycle sulky and trotting in 2.10 became comparatively easy, every year bringing out a good number of fast ones, till now there are 562 horses in the 2.10 list. By 1920 there will be 1,000 which was the number in the 2.30 list when Jay Eye See began the 2.10 list. Of the 54 new ones added in 1912, 20 are stallions, and the other 34 are evenly divided between mares and geldings. There are seven three-year-olds and three four-year-olds; 12 seven years and one gelding, Derby Boy, 11 years old, one stallion, Judge Parker, 10, and one mare, Esther W., nine. Thirty of the 54 winners are of the Wilkes family; 10 Electioneer, and Belmont, Director and Manbrino, three each, the others scattering. The record for speed is held by Baden, a stallion, with 2.05 1/4; Ross B., a gelding, comes second with 2.06 and a mare, Dorsh Medium, is third with 2.06 1/4. Seven of the entries got in with a bare 2.10, and 18 of them did not get below 2.09 1/4. With a showing of this kind, I don't believe the people who are breeding horses need be much afraid that they will not find a market for all the good ones they can raise."

Something about the Trees

"How many of you folks," said a professor looking chap, "know how many leaves there are on an average tree? I'll bet you can't guess within fifty thousand of it. Well, a big maple tree or a beech, will have over 400,000 leaves on it. If you don't believe me, just go out some day and count them. And everyone of these leaves is a lung to the tree, there being more than a hundred thousand little mouths to the square inch of every leaf on the under side. You never thought of that, did you? Trees perspire, or transpire as it is called, through pores in the bark of trunks and branches, and they exhale a vast amount of water, an oak tree giving off as much as 150 gallons on a summer day. You can figure from this what amount of water is evaporated from a hundred miles square of timber land. There wouldn't be enough water evaporated from all our water supply if it were not for the trees. The roots take in oxygen from the air and a tree may be choked to death by piling earth around it, or letting the earth harden, or it may be drowned by putting too much water around it. Trees breathe and eat and drink through their leaves and small roots, the big roots acting chiefly to hold the tree up. They breathe night and day, but feed only part of the time and they sleep in the night, during rainy weather and through the winter. Trees store food from their leaves for use in winter and the pores in the bark are sealed to keep the warmth in. The leaves prepare from the air and the rain a complex substance, called starch, which contains carbon, oxygen and hydrogen. From these come wood, flowers, fruit, gums, oils and various saps. A maple for example in three weeks will give twenty-five gallons of its life sap and still survive. If properly cared for, five pounds of sap. Between the bark and wood of a tree is a substance known as cambium, the living substance, from which the tissues develop. When a tree is girdled it dies because the sap cannot get to the roots and they are starved. Trees do not die of old age, their death is due to disease or accident or design by man. There are no two, of all the millions of leaves of the trees, alike. Still with all that scientists have learned of trees, they have not yet learned how the sap mounts upward."

A National Highway

"If the automobile had not been of any greater benefit than the good roads it has added to this country," said a ponderous party smoking a stogie, "it would have done its share for we have thousands of miles of fine roads where there would have been only the old-time dirt road if the whiz-wagon hadn't pushed the people along. New York state has added over 5,000 miles and is spending \$50,000,000, with a bill up for an appropriation of that much more, and other states are spending millions on good roads. The latest and biggest single proposition, though, is the National Highway to extend from New York to San Francisco and it is proposed to build this at a cost of ten million dollars. And the people along the way will not have to pay the bills, either, for the various automobile manufacturers and their accessories, dealers and owners will put up the money. Within thirty minutes after the project had been explained by Carl G. Fisher, who is father to the plan, at a banquet in Indianapolis, \$300,000 was subscribed and everywhere those interested are taking the matter up and pushing it for all they are worth. Manufacturers pledge a per cent. of their output and owners join an Ocean-to-Ocean Highway Association in memberships costing from \$5 to \$1,000. A national committee will be organized to look after the work and the construction will be under the direction of United States Government engineers. It is proposed to have the highway opened by May, 1915. This would be a grand thoroughfare, the longest single piece of roadway in the world and will be of the greatest value to every county through which it passes and the taxpayers for once will get something for nothing. It will also be the main stem of thousands of offshoots ramifying every section of the country with good roads and benefiting the farmers and small manufacturers as nothing else could do. Tally a big one for the automobile."

SWEETNESS.—The quantity of sugar eaten in the United States during the past year averages 87 pounds to each person, men, women and children of all ages included. If we exclude from the calculation the infants too young to consume much if any sugar, it would seem that the average would run close to one hundred pounds of sugar to each person. Did you get your share of sweetness last year? According to statistics the average consumption of sugar was only 39 1/2 pounds to each person in 1880.

How Are Your Nerves?

Nervousness is often merely an indication that the body is out of tone, and entirely disappears when this fault is corrected. Hundreds who suffered from Nervous Prostration, Sleeplessness, Exhaustion, etc., have found Bod-Tone just what they needed, for its activities in the body are of a character needed to set bad nerves right. You can try a dollar box without a penny. See offer on last page.

Let Me Remove Your
GOITRE
\$2.50 Free Trial Treatment



Don't worry any longer about that ugly goitre. Let me send you \$2.50 worth of my wonderful treatment FREE. No matter what other doctors or remedies you have tried, don't be discouraged. My treatment is different from all others. I will prove its value to you FREE in the privacy of your own home. You will be surprised how quickly it reduces the size of your goitre, relieves the choking and other disagreeable symptoms. My treatment is usually effective from the first trial. There is nothing like it for actual results. Patients everywhere report cures. One grateful woman, Mrs. Peter M. Semington, Linville Depot, Va., says: "There is no sign of a goitre on my neck now, and I took only one treatment. My general health, too, is fine. No choking or disagreeable feelings in my throat. I cannot thank you enough for your treatment, and gladly recommend it to every one suffering with goitre."

Don't send me any money, simply write and say: "Send me your Free \$2.50 Treatment in plain package." Then try it—and you'll be relieved. Don't put it off—send to-day. You risk nothing.

Address DR. W. T. BOBO, Goitre Specialist, 915 Minty Block, Battle Creek, Mich.



SNEEZING POWDER Boys if you want FUN get a box of CACHOO, blow a little in the air, unobserved, at school, dances etc. It will make all your friends nearly "sneeze their heads off" without knowing why. Try a box. Price 10 cts. 3 for 25c. J. COOK & CO. 42, CHICAGO, ILL.



MAGIC WAND 200 MAGIC TRICKS with coins, cards, rings &c. (astonish your friends); 75 Parlor Games, 10 Comic Recitations, 10 Funny Readings ("Female Strategist", "Boy Lost" etc.) 52 Money Making Secrets, 14 Funny Pictures of a young couple, 12 Love Letters, 20 new jokes, 150 Riddles, the Secret of Ventriloquism, How to Hypnotize, 20 Comic and Ragtime Songs & Music, Lovers' Secrets &c. Be an entertainer. All for 10c. STAR TRICK CO., CHICAGO, ILL.



PRACTICAL FOUNTAIN PEN Until recently an all rubber Fountain Pen cost a large sum, owing to the high cost of raw material, but the recent discovery of rubber in large quantities has reduced the price and new machinery has done the rest. We are now able to offer to our subscribers a fine quality Pen, with two additional Pen Points and a glass filler, a standard outfit at a greatly reduced price. Lawyers, Doctors, Clerks, Agents, Teachers, Scholars and in every home a Fountain Pen is needed, a good quality, warranted not to leak Pen, a pen it will be a pleasure to use, and can be sold at once. Send only two 15 months' subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, for a free Pen outfit. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

FIVE FINE BOOKS TWO BEAUTIFUL COLORED PHOTOGRAVURES FREE



Portfolio of Separate and Complete Stories and Art Pictures.

Graphic Library Tales for the family and home circle. FIVE WORLD FAMOUS STORIES, embracing LOVE, MYSTERY, TRAGEDY, RICHES and PATHOS, with the following popular titles:

THE ISLAND OF DIAMONDS by Harry Danforth
A stirring sea tale that will make the blood tingle. The romance of an island that was shrouded in mystery and that proved to be the very storm center of thrilling adventures; an island that was strangely found and still more strangely lost. If you have the sort of blood that beats faster at the recital of a great narrative of mystery and adventures, you cannot afford to miss "The Island of Diamonds." It is Harry Danforth at his very best. To readers familiar with his work, the story can have no higher praise.

MY MOTHER'S RIVAL by Charlotte M. Braeme
No writer better understands the quick and sure way to a reader's emotions than does Charlotte M. Braeme. All her books throb with heart interest of the most entrancing, enthralling sort. In "My Mother's Rival," she has written one of her greatest stories. It stirs with the great pulse of human nature and is a tale of rare beauty and intense fascination. There is also about it an element of the supernatural that leaves one with a feeling of almost frightened wonder.

THE LITTLE ROUGH-CAST HOUSE by Mrs. Emma D. E. N. Southworth
Our mothers read and loved the books of Mrs. Emma D. E. N. Southworth. So will our grandchildren. For such stories as hers can never die. They are fraught with a sweetness, a loveliness and a sustained interest that makes them classics for all times. And "The Little Rough-Cast House" is said by competent critics to be the finest piece of work Mrs. Southworth has ever done. It is a story to read—to re-read—and then to pass on as a treat to one's best friend.

THE DEVIL'S ANVIL by Mary Kyle Dallas
This is a story that carries the reader through all phases of life, from cottage to palace. And through many a thrilling scene it passes. The description of the horrors of a burning ship in mid ocean is one not lightly forgotten. In fact the whole book bears the reader along on a ceaseless rush of action that grips him from the first page to the very last. It is the masterpiece of Mary Kyle Dallas's many notable books.

SWEET IS TRUE LOVE by The Duchess
The signature "The Duchess," to any story is as sure a sign of excellence as is the "sterling" stamp on a piece of silver. "Sweet is True Love" is the tale of two splendidly normal and attractive young people who smashed their way through a host of obstacles to win each other. All the world loves a lover; and all the world loves a well-written love story. Here is a love story that will set the slowest old heart to fluttering.

Each story is complete, in bound booklet form, with illustrations conveniently arranged in an artistic portfolio. A very beautiful TEN COLOR ART POSTER, GAINSBORO PORTRAIT, size four by five and one-half inches, adorns each portfolio, and this very beautiful subject is READILY REMOVED FOR FRAMING.

Another and larger similarly BEAUTIFUL PICTURE, size six by eight inches, is included also in each portfolio and is very SUITABLE FOR FRAMING. Either or both are excellent for PICTURE PUZZLES, as they are artistic subjects, beautifully printed on HEAVY PAPER.

Good wholesome stories by FASCINATING WRITERS such as HOLMES, BRAEME and others, appeal to all, and this UNIQUE METHOD of distributing them in PORTFOLIOS WITH TWO FREE ART PICTURES, adds additional value and interest to the liberal offers we make.

THESE FIVE NOVELS contain as many words of fiction as two average \$1.50 novels.

SPECIAL OFFER. Send one bona fide new subscriber to COMFORT at 25 cents for 15 months, for one Portfolio of Five Stories and Art Pictures, or your own 15-months' 25-cent renewal subscription, with five cents additional, 30 cents in all for same. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

FOUR PIN WAIST SET

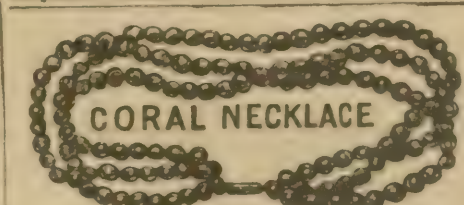
Roman laid gold plate, soft rich gold finish, in a velvet pad box. We show but two pins to give you the sizes; there is one large pin and three smaller ones, one Neck or Waist Pin and the others for collar, cuff or lace pins, equally useful as Baby pins. We warrant these pins not to break, which is an exceptional guarantee on a pin subjected to such constant and hard use. Other uses for such a combination set of Four Pins will occur to every lady reader of COMFORT, and we doubt if there are many who can say, "We have no use for them." They are indispensable. Several sets will not be too many to have about, especially if there are children in the family.

Club Offer Send us only one new 15-months subscription to COMFORT at 25 cents for one of these Four Pin Sets Free. It positively must be a new subscription. Send 10 cents extra, 35 cents in all, for your own subscription or a renewal. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Baby's First Ring
The Little Darling Surely Wants One Now

These are baby sizes only and are designed for the little one's tiny fingers. Each is heavily embossed with the words BABY, PAPA or MAMA, just as you prefer. Made in one style only, the regular hoop or band ring of 14 karat gold filled, and will not tarnish. The demand for children's and babies' sizes has encouraged us to have this special line made up for our particular customers and we are delighted with the results. They will please the parents of every lovely baby. Mamas and Papas, also friends, will find this an excellent privilege of obtaining the first ring for baby. We can promise satisfaction in fit if a bit of string or ribbon is sent showing size of the little finger. We will pack the ring in a cunning plush-lined box and you will be delighted with the whole.

SPECIAL OFFER. Send us only 35-cent subscribers to this monthly at 25 cents each per year, and we will send a ring same day and enter subscriptions. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



CORAL NECKLACE Every Girl or Woman delights to possess a real coral necklace. The genuine Neapolitan article is so very expensive that few can afford one. This necklace looks so much like the real thing that many think they are, so perfect is the coloring of this Italian Wonder. It is a triple strand beautifully polished delicate coral pink necklace of just the proper shade to give it the most expensive appearance. We have but a limited number which we can give as premiums to all who get up clubs of 25-15-month subscribers at 25c. each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

SAVE IRONING

The New Crepe Gowns Ready to Wear as Soon as Dry from the Wash

As COMFORT is all the time looking for the most sensible articles to offer to their many subscribers, the very latest that has been shown them is the crepe and seersucker cloth Nightgowns that economize your ironing. Every woman and girl knows what that means and you have only to see these Crepe Nightgowns to appreciate how very stylish and comfortable they look and feel without being ironed. We offer two styles of cloth, so you can have a pair, and still have them exactly alike. Both are made in the fashionable slip-over style, with short kimono sleeves, and the high Empire and straight effect with heading and ribbon, which gives such a smart touch to gowns of this kind. These gowns have the latest style neck and are trimmed with a very pretty Irish linen lace, with either pink or blue ribbon inserted.



For traveling there is nothing so popular as crepe or seersucker cloth gowns, as you can wash them, and only have to pull them in shape before they are ready to wear again. Also this cloth is very durable and will stand no end of wear. When lawn or muslin is so sheer one has to be very careful when laundering, also when packing your trunk or traveling bag; when you go on your vacation much care has to be taken in folding the nicely starched, ironed gowns so they will not be wrinkled, while with the crepe or seersucker gown you can fold it any way, and when you reach your destination can simply shake it out, and it will be as good as when you started.

Special Offer. For eight 15 months' subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you by Parcel Post two gowns alike, seersucker or crepe, or both different. State which you prefer. When you consider the amount of cloth it takes to make even one gown, the lace and ribbon to trim it with, and your time, you will yourself appreciate the bargain you are getting by this small cloth-raising where you get two garments free. These gowns come in sizes 15, 16 and 17, or for bust measure 34 to 42 inches. Be sure to state size when ordering.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Girl's Water-Proof Cape

A Great PROTECTOR From WIND and RAIN



Made of striped rubberized cloth with suitable lining, and the best feature of this cape is the hood, girls going to school do not like to carry an umbrella, and this cape can be worn either in hot or cold weather. If in winter a sweater or coat can be worn underneath, and the child is not only dry but perfectly warm. There are two openings in the cape for the arms, but the garment is large enough so the books or packages can be carried underneath, which makes it much better than a Rain Coat. The shoulders are shaped so as to give it a very attractive look. This cape comes in a very dark drab color with lighter stripes. They are so pretty any girl will be proud to wear one. Sizes 6 to 14 years. When ordering better order it larger than necessary so to have it of sufficient size to cover a heavy coat or other garments. Boys can easily get up clubs and thus get one of these Rain Capes for their sisters. Girls like to get subscribers to COMFORT where they can so easily earn such a sensible premium so as to keep warm and dry during the rainy season. We are prepared to fill all orders promptly.

Special Club Offer: For a club of only seven subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send you by Parcel Post one of these serviceable Rain Capes.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Genuine Weatherproof Garment

Utility Coat for Ladies, Misses and Men



Fashioned after the model of a "Great Coat," it covers the entire person from "Head to Foot," affording complete protection from the weather, be it wind or rain. Made of waterproof rubber sheeting, in two colors, Olive Drab or Tan and Gray with Plaid Lining, every seam is both sewed and cemented, has standing Military Collar, two side pockets and five large buttons.

For walking the coat is none too heavy, for riding it is the greatest rain and wind repellent imaginable.

Of late the so-called "rain coat" has been on the rage, they have proven more desirable than so-called cravenetted materials, being lighter in weight.

Every person, especially schoolgirls, should be amply protected from the weather, and this coat provides a garment that covers all the outer clothes, providing warmth and keeping everything dry. Such coats usually sell for \$5.00 but we can give them away free for small subscription clubs as we have bought a quantity at great advantage. Read the offer carefully.

Club Offer. Send only 12 subscribers to COMFORT at 25c. each for 15 months for one Coat; same will be sent at our expense. You may select Tan or Gray, and please give size, bust measure, required. Address

COMFORT
Augusta - Maine

Child's Walking Coat



Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Very becoming Walking Length Coat of tan English Rep with white collar and cuffs of the same material. This charming little coat is trimmed with four large pearl buttons, also has two deep pockets with flaps, which give it a very neat and attractive appearance when worn by either girl or boy. The illustration does not do half justice to this practical little coat, and when you stop to consider how very easy it is to secure one, you cannot afford to delay getting up your club at once.

This coat will launder as nicely as fine linen, and always look well and will not get out of shape. We offer this garment in three sizes, three to six years. Send your order early so as to secure one of these attractive coats now. Be sure and state size when ordering.

Club Offer: For a club of eight subscribers to COMFORT at 25c. each for 15 months, we will send you this becoming child's coat by Parcel Post.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Special Club Offer: For a club of ten subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send you free by Parcel Post one of these very becoming baby coats.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Ladies' Pure Silk Hose

FINE AND LUSTROUS



Owing to the great demand and growing popularity of Silk Stockings, we have arranged to give our readers an opportunity to procure a pair free of cost.

The attractive feature of this hose is the lisle top and feet; the upper part of the stocking is made of fine lisle with a double garter welt. The heel and toe are made of four thread lisle.

By this method the hose are durable and strong where the wear comes, and sheer and lustrous where they show.

Genuine Silk Hose are positively the greatest delight in a lady's wardrobe, and nothing is more pleasing than Silk Hose as a gift. Silk Hose are indispensable to complete the finished appearance of the well-dressed woman. It is fashionable to wear Silk Hose to match gown or dress; this is possible from the following assortment of colors; Black, White, Tan, Pink and



WHITE Bedspread

For Full Width and Length BEDSTEAD

Will grace and adorn your bedroom and put on an air of refinement that will reflect creditably on you. We have tried to convey to your eye through the illustration, the appearance of the spread or counterpane when carefully arranged on the bed. It finishes the bed and dresses up the whole room.

This pattern having a deep bordered edge is one that cannot fail to please. The material is fine quality and workmanship the best.

For a slight effort we will give you one large spread suitable for a full size, full width and full length bed. The handsome figured design with deep bordered edge makes an effect pleasing and delightful.

Club Offer. We will send you, all charges paid, one of these large spreads as a reward for a club of only eight 15-months subscribers at 25 cents each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

GOLD FILLED. WARRANTED

There is just enough engraving on these very Sensible Circular Shaped Brooch Pins to make them appear neat and attractive. We illustrate the very newest thing in Ladies' Brooch Pins. The quality is beyond Gold Filled, which will wear indefinitely. This Pin is shown in all the grades, in catalogues, and stores everywhere, as it is appropriate to be worn by young or old.



NEW STYLE LADY'S BROOCH

SPECIAL OFFERS: Send only one New 15 months' subscription to COMFORT at 25c. for one of these Circle Pins free. This must be a new subscription. Send 50c. extra. 90c. in all, if for your own subscription or a renewal. Specify Engraved Pin No. 1 when ordering.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



WHITE CAMBRIC UNDERSHIRTS

These petticoats are made of extra heavy cambric and have an extra long dounce with hemstitched tucks and lace insertion in the real cluny effect, also comes in full deep Hamburg Embroidered Flounce with dust ruffle of same material. We have several patterns and each one is just as attractive as the other. White undershirts are something you cannot have too many of. These can easily be laundered, and always look fresh and nice. The skirts are really very beautiful and you will be very pleased to own one if not more. They come in full lengths, 33 to 44. Be sure to state length when ordering.

Club Offer: For a club of only five subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months we will send you free by Parcel Post one of these White Cambric Undershirts.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Everybody's Suit Case



They are Much More Convenient Than Bag or Valise. This cut shows our Brass and Leather Bound Twisted Fiber Suit Case. They are One Foot Wide, About Two Feet Long, and over One-half Foot Deep. Weigh only 3 1/2 Pounds. This excellent Premium is one of the best for either men or women, boys or girls to use for themselves or will make a splendid present for a friend. Perhaps you already have a heavy leather bag or suit case, if so you will also want one of the lightest, and yet longest wearing cases that can be made. The Fiber gives a beautiful color, and blends nicely with the brass clasps on each side. The handle is made good size to grasp and is well stitched. Inside it is roomy, well lined, with good wearing striped material and two straps are handy here to separate shirt-waists or men's shirts and help hold down a good case full of assorted male or female wearing apparel. The corners are metal bound and securely held firm and rigid with copper rivets.

Club Offer: For a club of only seven subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months we will send you one of these very serviceable Light Weight Suit Cases Free By Parcel Post.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

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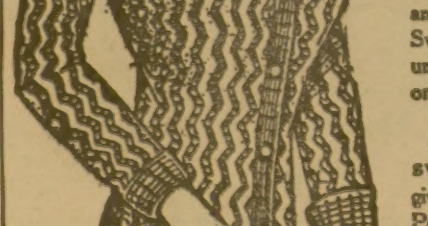
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Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

LADIES' UNDERGARMENTS

MADE AT HOME For YOURSELF or the CHILDREN

From your Own patterns and Ideas of fine quality ENGLISH LONG CLOTH.



Suggesting some of its practical uses.

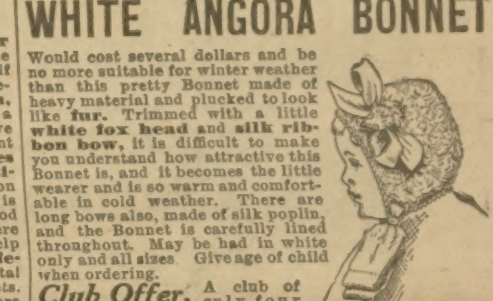
Every mother or grown-up daughter appreciates well-fitted stylish undergarments. The children and especially the babies look best dressed in all white. Think of the garments made of white linen or lawn in the outfit of every family, and mother has to make nearly all, if not all, of them by hand.

COMFORT has selected a twelve yard piece of extra fine quality ENGLISH LONG CLOTH, or linen fine and sheer in quality and texture which is manufactured solely for woman's undergarments. Probably factory it makes up into Drawers, Corset Covers, Nightgowns, Marguerites or Chemise, or for Baby's underclothes, dresses, etc. In a twelve yard piece there is sufficient material for many different pieces. It is a family supply for a long time. If any of the young ladies of the family are to be married here is an opportunity to obtain the necessary material for the wedding outfit, and it is fine enough and pretty enough for any bride. Each piece is twelve yards long and the material is 36 inches wide.

With every twelve yard piece we will supply free of charge one paper pattern which may be selected from our regular pattern offer, elsewhere in this publication.

CLUB OFFER. We shall send one twelve yard piece LONG CLOTH for a club of only eight 15-months subscribers to COMFORT at 25c. each. A remarkable bargain offer. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

WHITE ANGORA BONNET



Would cost several dollars and be no more suitable for winter weather than this pretty Bonnet made of heavy material and plucked to look like fur. Trimmed with a little white fox head and silk ribbon bow, it is difficult to make you understand how attractive this Bonnet is, and it becomes the little wearer and is so warm and comfortable in cold weather. There are long bows also, made of silk poplin, and the Bonnet is carefully lined throughout. May be had in white only and all sizes. Giveage of child when ordering.

Club Offer. A club of subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months secures one Bonnet post-paid. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Ladies' Corset Covers

Made of cambric finish Muslin, and is Beautifully Trimmed Across the Front with rows of lace and beading with Dainty Ribbon inserted. The neck and armholes also have lace to match. These Corset Covers have a puckering string around the waist which can be drawn to fit any waist, and this gives the desired effect.

We have these Corset Covers in different styles, but the illustration will give you a very good idea of what we are offering.

Every woman and girl has to have corset covers included in their wardrobe, so now is the chance to get as many as you want free.

They come in sizes 32 to 44 bust measure. Be sure and state size required when ordering.

Club Offer: For a club of only Three subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send you one of these beautifully trimmed Corset Covers, free by Parcel Post.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Ladies' Wool Sweaters

FANCY AND PLAIN WEAVES

Shawl, Turn-down and Straight Collars

POCKETS AND PEARL BUTTONS

Every Sweater a true value in a First-class Garment, made to retail for \$2.69 and \$3.15, but we had a warm fall of 1912, as everyone knows, and manufacturers were unable to dispose of all their product, hence, our opportunity to buy in January, a genuine bargain in Ladies' Fitted Sweaters, one style of which we show here. The assortment comprises White, Red and Tan, for color assortment and we have each in sizes from 32 to 44 bust measure. A Sweater is an all-the-year-around garment, to be worn under a Coat in cold weather, or without in warmer weather, or climates. There are several weights in the assortment.

In addition to offering you a great big value in an all-wool sweater, perfectly made, in a variety of colors and styles, we give you the benefit of reduced mailing cost and forward by Parcel Post.

CLUB OFFER: For one Sweater, send only eight subscribers to COMFORT, at 25c. each for 15 months. Kindly state color, size, and weight preferred.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

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Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

LADIES' SIZE GOLD WATCH



We offer to every woman and girl a thoroughly American and Guaranteed Timepiece. The watch is beautifully engraved on the back, and has a small shield in the center for a monogram or initial. The cases are solid gold-filled, and warranted to wear five years. The Watch is stem wind, stem set, and the dial is clear white, and the figures are black and very plain, also has a second hand.

This is a very serviceable Gold Watch and one of the daintiest and prettiest that a woman or girl could own. For usefulness and good all-round wear, the above gold-filled watch is the best we have ever offered. They come in a very attractive nicely lined box, and when the watch is not worn it can be kept on the dresser or in a drawer in this pretty case, which adds much to its looks.

Club Offer. For a club of only twenty subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send you free by Parcel Post one of these solid gold-filled watches.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

TWO YARD LONG SILK MUSLIN SCARF



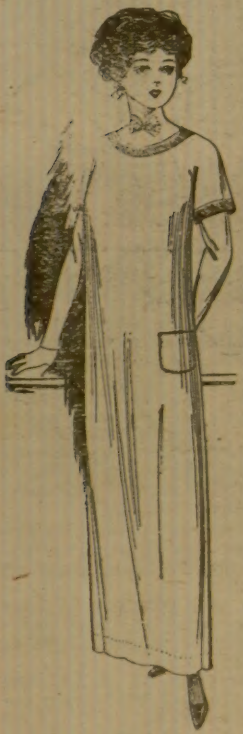
A dainty shoulder throw and head covering for Summer, or for evening wear the year round. For trimming Summer hats there is nothing so practical or so easily and attractively arranged. Each Scarf is two yards long and 24 inches wide, with deep hemstitched edge, and we have them in white, black, light blue and light pink.

For every-day use such a scarf is indispensable and for car or boat riding, pleasure or otherwise one or more of these scarfs will be found useful. Being ready to wear, the saving of time in hemstitching is worth something to every woman, and the busy Mothers will find them so convenient for a quick method of trimming the children's hats.

In the cities the stores all show these scarfs and everyone is wearing them. Usually retail for one dollar, while we give one for only two subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months. Address

COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

KIMONO APRONS



Completely cover the dress, thoroughly protecting the garment of the wearer. With low, round neck, short sleeves, and a pocket, they are both very attractive and very useful.

A full length apron is a sensible apron; a ready-to-wear apron is desirable, and it is a fact, you can't not buy such pretty and fine quality percale, trimmings, and buttons, and make an apron, as reasonable as you could purchase this one—but you don't have to buy of us, you get it free for a slight service.

A fine quality Percale in variety of serviceable colors and patterns, enables us to assure you entire satisfaction. You may be familiar with work aprons, kitchen aprons, or bungalow aprons, or any similar name, they are all the same and for the same purpose. Let us send you one of these, with money back guarantee.

Club Offer: Send only three subscribers to COMFORT, at 25c. each for 15 months, for one apron. Give business measure. Address

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Ready-Made Towels



YARD LONG

These Four Complete Ready-to-Use TOWELS.

Each a yard long, are given for a club of only two subscribers, and is one of the most sensible and satisfactory and thus most popular premium we offer. They are of excellent quality crash, each towel one yard long and ready to use. For kitchen, office, factory and shop use this is a durable, rough-and-ready towel; will wipe well, wear well and wash well. For dishes and hands this is the best; for many purposes about the house good crash toweling finds its use and the good housekeeper always has a supply. The men and boys will enjoy such towels as these. The natural linen color and blue line border make them very attractive. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Club Offer: A club of two subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months secures four of these ready-made Towels.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Warranted Gold Filled Brooch

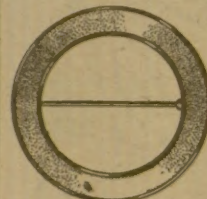
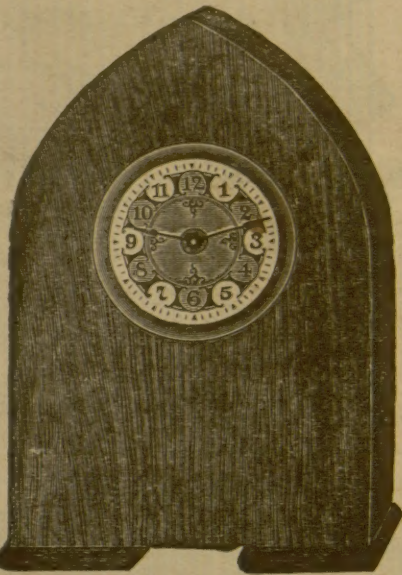


Illustration is Actual size and Shape of the very newest in Ladies' Brooch Pins. The quality is best Gold Filled, which will wear indefinitely, the finish is English, or Polished, the design severely plain, but extremely desirable. This Pin is shown in all the goods, in catalogues, and stores everywhere, and now offered to you as a free gift.

SPECIAL OFFERS: Send only one New, 15 months' subscription to COMFORT at 25c., for one of these Circle Pins free. This must be a new subscription. Send 5c. extra, 30c. in all, if for your own subscription or a renewal.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

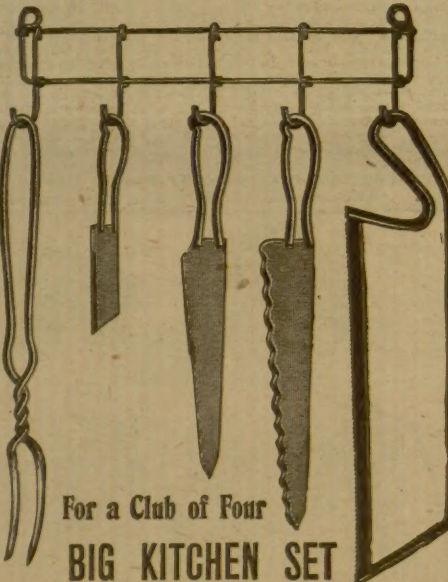
MISSION STYLE ALARM CLOCK



This new style Mission Clock is in great demand throughout the country, and their sale in the big cities are ahead of all other style clocks. The case is made from especially prepared wood and is solid and finished in dark, rich Flemish mission oak. The dial has good size figures large enough to be seen at a distance across the room, with fancy artistic design, and the movement is thirty hours, fully guaranteed. Each clock is supplied with a loud, clear alarm, all nicely concealed in back, and can be set at any time to wake the heaviest sleeper. Besides being such an indispensable and useful article, they make not only a charming mantle ornament but are fit to grace any room or any position in the house.

Club Offer. For a club of eight subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send you free by Parcel Post one of these attractive Mission Style Alarm Clocks.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



For a Club of Four

BIG KITCHEN SET

Nickel plated, steel handles on each piece which insures cleanliness. Consisting of nickel-plated Kitchen or pot fork, kitchen saw, sixteen inches long, French cook or meat knife, with eight-inch tempered blade. Bread knife, nine and one half inch blade, and keen beveled edge paring or vegetable knife. Complete, making six articles, including strong metal rack.

Club Offer. COMFORT at 25 cents for 15 months, we will send this complete Kitchen Set free by Parcel Post. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

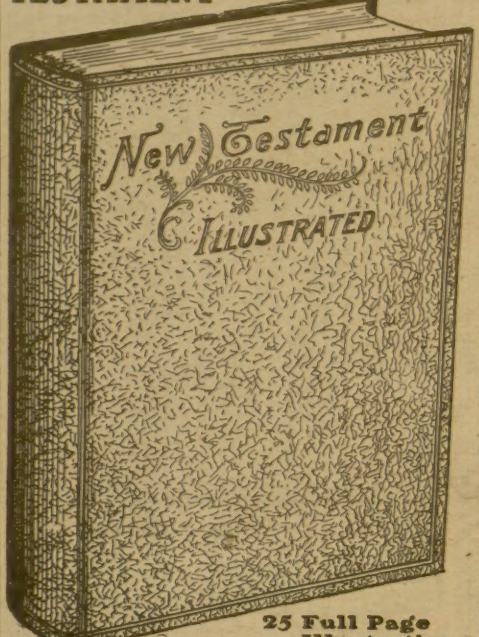
GERMAN SILVER PURSE WITH 50-INCH CHAIN



The illustration is exact size of this Dainty New Novelty Purse. Made of German Silver with Engraved Sides, opening with pocket for Change, Keys and Keepsakes. German Silver Chain, 50 inches long with each purse, an ideal gift for a young person. Very durable and satisfactory, you will be delighted with it.

CLUB OFFER. For only three subscribers to COMFORT at 25c. each for 15 months we will send you one of these German Silver Purses. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

GENUINE LEATHER BOUND TESTAMENT



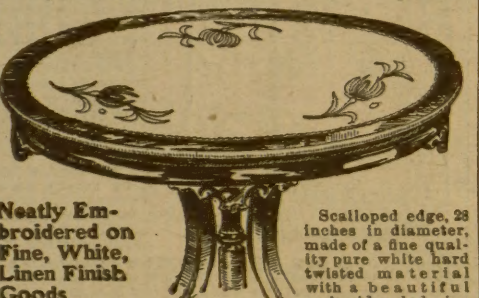
25 Full Page Illustrations

We have a special edition, only a limited quantity gotten up especially for COMFORT, enabling us to offer you a splendid Testament very reasonably. This handy-size Testament is the American Standard Version, the most accurate translation of the Scriptures, edited by American Revision Committee, printed on fine paper, pure text, in every respect the finest manufacture. A Testament we are proud to offer. The Binding is Genuine Leather, no imitation, but absolutely true quality, with little decorations stamped in Gold. These Testaments are gotten up exclusively for us, which enables us to distribute them Free, to your advantage because if we bought from regular stock in small quantity we should be obliged to charge far more for one.

Special Offer: You may send us one NEW subscriber to COMFORT at 25c. for 15 months with 15c. extra, 35c. in all, for one New Testament. The sub. must be a new one, not your own name, or for a club of two subscribers (one of which may be your own) to COMFORT at 25c. each for 15 months, secures one New Testament free.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Imported Embroidered Centerpiece



Neatly Embroidered on Fine, White, Linen Finish Goods

Scalloped edge, 23 inches in diameter, made of a fine quality pure white hard twisted material with a beautiful embroidered design

worked in three places. The Japanese Importing firm who secured these pretty art pieces deal only with high-grade hand embroidery work, some pieces costing hundreds of dollars. The Japanese are known to be very skillful in this special art.

CLUB OFFER: Send only two subscribers to COMFORT at 25c. each for 15 months, and you will get one of these centerpieces free. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Warranted to WEAR TEN YEARS

Rolled-Gold Plate Bead NECK CHAINS

The Rebirth of An Old Style which has become most Popular

These beads are made of Rolled Gold Plate, and are very highly polished. There are 89 Beads strung on a Strong, Flexible Wire, measuring 14 inches in Length, and Warranted to Wear Ten Years. Are just the right size to become the wearer. Similar beads were worn by our Grandmothers. Now, again, and even if you now have a locket and chain, or pendant and chain, you will still want a string of these dainty Gold Beads to wear with your low or high-necked dresses. No woman or girl's dress is complete without some little touch of jewelry, and these plain gold beads are the latest for all seasons' wear.

Special Offer: For five subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send a string of these very handsome Gold Plated Beads, postage prepaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Dresser, Bureau and Table Scarf

45 INCHES LONG, 15 INCHES WIDE.

A Beautiful Lace Ornament for the Home.



This especially attractive new premium will at once interest our lady readers who seek the beautiful and ornamental for their home, and so very many uses will suggest themselves, we know you will want one or more just as you see this illustration and read the description. Made of white linen thread in a beautiful Nottingham pattern, it will not only give splendid satisfaction as an ornament, but is extremely durable, as you well know from your experience with Nottingham Curtains. This pattern we have selected as most attractive, and the size is so much larger than you are usually offered, we know this special pattern will appeal to you. You can fix up several rooms with these Lace Pieces by using one as a centerpiece for Table, another as a Bureau Scarf, and another as a Lambrequin, being pulled on to the center of rod between the two Curtains you now have hanging this is a new idea and extremely stylish. We expect to quickly dispose of a quantity of these LACE PIECES.

Club Offer. Send only two 15-mo. 25-cent subscriptions to COMFORT and receive one of these Lace Pieces Free.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

ORIENTAL DESIGN RUGS

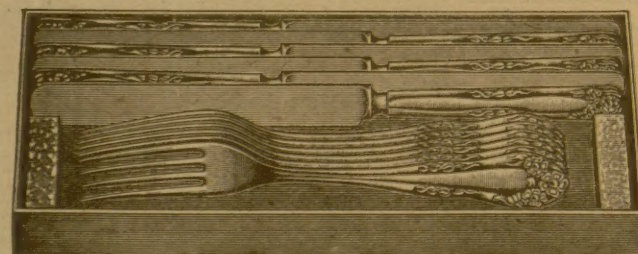
When You Get Out of Bed You Can Walk on Velvet

We offer you this Beautiful Banner Rug in a variety of bright Oriental colors. The Rug is of very suitable and convenient size to fit in many places in your home. Perhaps there is a little niche or unsightly place you wish to cover on some floor, and if so this rug which is a yard long and eighteen inches wide, will just fill the place, for they are not only artistic but very serviceable and give a homelike and cheerful effect to any room and lend a charm to the surroundings. The velvet appearance of this Rug makes it appropriate for parlor, living-room, dining-room, den, chamber or hall. The patterns are not only of flowers but animals, and if you have a child in your home nothing will please it any more than to have a rug alongside the bed with a dog, cat, horse, deer or lamb on it. Perhaps you have read about or seen this style of Rug, and wanted one or more for a long time and did not have the money handy to buy one, but now is your opportunity to get one free as a premium for a little work. When sending club list state whether animal design is wanted or floral pattern. We will be pleased to send whichever you prefer.

Club Offers. Send only six subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months and we will send you one of these very handsome Velvet-finished Rugs, 18x36 inches, or if you prefer a large Rug, we will send one 27x51 inches in size for a club of ten subscribers at 25 cents each for 15 months in Oriental design or floral patterns of same fine Velvety texture. It is the nicest feeling thing to step on when you get out of bed in the morning, and the most beautiful and decorative article to place in any room in the house. You get the same bright warm coloring and elegant effect in either size rug.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NO TARNISH---NEVER WEAR OUT



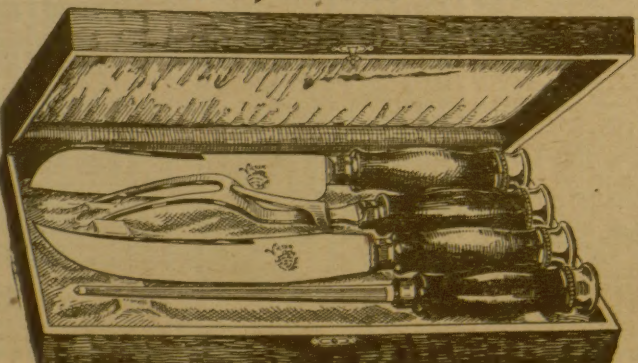
New Process LASHER SILVER HANDLE STEEL BLADES FLORAL PATTERN KNIVES AND FORKS.

This LASHER Silver Set consisting of Six Knives and Six Forks, comes packed in a handsome case. The Knives are fine tempered steel blade, special silver handle, and the Forks are specially made with a view of long wear from the same special silver floral pattern. A pure solid metal enters into their manufacture, making it impossible to get rusty, brassy or grow cheap.

The new process of silver-welding prevents the handles from becoming loose on the steel knives. **Club Offer.** We give this complete set of Knives and Forks for a club of only ten subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

CARVING OUTFIT OF FOUR PIECES

IN LINED, HINGED CASES WITH FASTENING



Outfit embraces Carving Knife, Bread Knife, Fork and Steel. The knife is scimitar in shape, beautifully swaged, polished and etched. The fork is oval, and has a patent guard and knife rest. The steel is milled by a patent process and hardened. The bread knife has eight-inch blade. The handles on each piece are hard wood enameled in mission black. Fancy silver ferruled on each piece, all being nicely packed in lined and hinged case. No more desirable Christmas, Wedding or Birthday gift can be imagined, and the extra quality steel knives in this Set will be a delight to the "man of the house" who must do the carving, or a constant help to the one who must find them useful for general table and kitchen use.

Club Offer. For only five subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send one of these Carving Sets and guarantee satisfaction. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A Joyful Easter

A DECORATED Easter Box OF 25 CHOICE EASTER POST CARDS

All new BRIGHT-COLORED and decorative Easter POST CARDS—exquisitely embellished with such appropriate designs as the CROSS, DOVES, CHICKS, RABBITS, EASTER LILIES, EGGS, and LOVELY HUMAN FACES and FIGURES, and prettily inscribed with apt sentiments such as "BEST EASTER WISHES," "EASTER GREETINGS," "A JOYFUL EASTER," "EASTER BLESSINGS," "A HAPPY EASTER," "SWEET EASTER," "HOLY EASTER," "HAVE FAITH IN ME," "HOLY EASTER DAY," "HAVE MANY BRILLIANT and HARMONIOUS tints with contrasts of gold and bronze effects, giving you the latest, most artistic assortment and most appealing sentiments, so the cards can be used at different times through the year as well as at Easter.

EASTER POST CARDS now supplant all old style Easter folders and cards that must be mailed in an envelope. Not only are our EASTER CARDS ARTISTIC in DESIGN but BEAUTIFULLY EXECUTED in GOLD and MANY COLORS, on good quality stock. EVERY CARD A GEM and one box of 25 WILL NOT BE ENOUGH for your needs. We shall distribute THOUSANDS OF EASTER boxes during NEXT FEW WEEKS, be sure to ORDER as MANY as you think YOU WILL WANT and ORDER EARLY. We can not say how soon we may be SOLD OUT and a box of 25 EASTER CARDS

2 BOXES COST YOU NO MONEY

FOR A CLUB of only TWO subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months (your own as a renewal, or new subscriptions will count as one in the club), or you may send your own and one new subscription, or join with your neighbor, each sending one 15-month subscription to COMFORT at 25 cents each and we will send post-paid two of these decorated boxes each containing 25 EASTER POST CARDS FREE. Send the 50 cents for Club of TWO Subscriptions to COMFORT today and get 2 Boxes.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

14,000 BEADS @ LOOM OUTFIT FREE

PROFITABLE BEADWORK AT HOME MAKING BAGS, CHAINS, NECKLACES, PURSES, BELTS, COLLARS AND CUFFS, SHIRT-WAIST SETS, SLIPPERS, WATCH CASES, FOR WATCH CHAINS, CARD CASES, POCKETBOOKS, WRIST BAGS, DRESS TRIMMINGS, ETC., ETC.



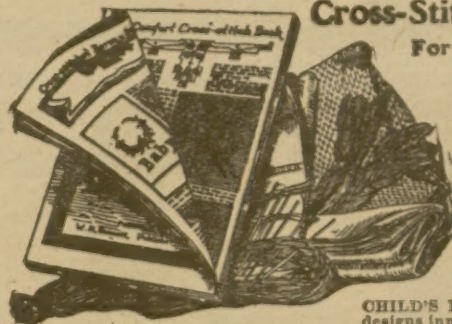
The great revival in Art Beadwork has brought about a Wonderful Loom Invention for easily doing this fascinating work. The product of the Penobscot Indians of Maine as well as the Apache Tribes, has made them famous the world over. For thousands of years Venetians have produced wonderful beads. Columbus first brought articles of Venetian Beadwork to America that completely fascinated the early settlers. Now the most dainty and artistic costumes are not complete without a dash of beautiful color such as can only be gotten from these same exquisite shades of artistically arranged beads. That beadwork is entirely practical can be proven by its thousands of years of usefulness. No art in existence has given the world more profitable employment or genuine happiness than Bead working; the articles that are now being made with beads sell for many times the cost of material—all it necessary is a little time and patience for any one to become proficient in the art. With the invention of this Bead Loom, the mechanical possibilities of which are nearly unlimited, the simplicity of weaving the beads is at once astonishing and rapid. The old-fashioned work was mostly knit after the beads were strung yards at a time, when the miscount of even a single bead would throw the pattern out all over the design. All of our grandmothers' beautiful designs can now be reproduced with half the expenditure of energy and nerve force. Another wonderful help is the use of the regular Bead Needle. These are long and slender and have a very long eye built especially for holding a lot of beads at one time and doing the work easily and rapidly. The Bead Needle shown illustrated shows the method of working, the hands holding the needle and thread, giving an idea of the progress of the warp in making a Belt or Woven Chain. The outfit consists of 1 Kanibas Loom, 3 Bunches Black Beads, 2 Bunches Green Beads, 3 Bunches White Beads, 2 Bunches Pink Beads, 2 Bunches Blue Beads, 1 Paper containing a dozen Special Bead Needles, 1 Gold Swivel Snap for chain, 1 Spool Special Strong Bead Thread, and the Apache Beadworker of Instruction and Designs. This great book was gotten up especially to show some of the wonderful possibilities of Artistic Beadwork. It has a beautiful photogravure cover and contains seventy-five different cuts and designs in popular beadwork, giving full easy detail instructions just what color beads to use and how to work them; it shows some of the Lady Washington Bags illustrated from these old Revolutionary articles themselves that cannot now be bought for hundreds of dollars. It shows how to make all sorts of Chains, Bags, Collars, Cuffs and Dress Trimmings, Purses, etc., etc., giving full directions for all designs. All the popular Secret Order Emblems can be worked with great effect in beads for Rob Chains, etc., and this book shows Masonic, Odd Fellow, Royal Arcanum, and other styles with directions. Some of the Bag designs shown bring \$12.00 or \$15.00 when worked out and the extra beads cost so little that very large profits come from doing the work. It only requires your time to make a lot of money doing these designs. You get these Fourteen Thousand Beads with the Loom and Book of Directions, Thread, Needles, in fact, the entire outfit above described absolutely Free. So popular and instructive has beadwork now become in teaching color schemes that the educational boards have adopted Loom Beadwork and introduced it in all large city schools.

Club Offer. For a club of only five 15-months' subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will deliver the entire outfit free. Get up your club now.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Cross-Stitch Instruction Book and Outfit.

For Working Cross-Stitch Designs on Canvas, Linen, Huck and Scrim with Embroidery Cotton and Needles.



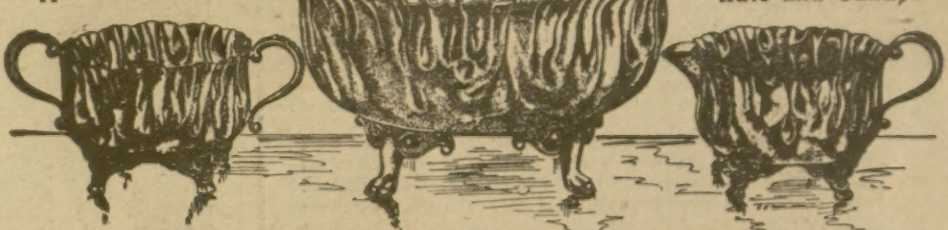
We have just compiled a most comprehensive and valuable book on CROSS-STITCH embodying the best of the oldest and newest CROSS-STITCH ideas. Profusion of illustrations give practical help to pages of authentic instruction. These with a color key, for many designs, show at a glance just what colors are to be used to produce the harmonious result intended. This descriptive idea is so simple everyone succeeds at CROSS-STITCH work with our booklet. Everyone is doing something in CROSS-STITCH nowadays. In this booklet you are shown and taught how to make a CROSS-STITCH BABY TOWEL, SHIRT-WAIST FRONT, PINCUSHION, BUREAU SCARF, COLLAR and CUFF SET, TIDY, designs innumerable. To interest you in CROSS-STITCH we now

offer you free for but one new 25c subscription to COMFORT for 15-months, one CROSS-STITCH BOOK, with ONE-HALF YARD CROSS-STITCH CANVAS one Skein Embroidery Cotton and one Needle. In the Book we fully describe FOUR BIG CROSS-STITCH OUTFITS. Cut above illustrates outfit No. 4 of CROSS-STITCH SCRIM, HUCK, LINEN, CANVAS, ETC., which is given free for club of five. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

SPLENDID THREE-PIECE SILVER SET

The Smaller Round Dish for Candy, Olives, Nuts, Whipped Cream or Pickles.

The Seven-Inch Dish for Salad, Fruit, Nuts and Candy.



The illustration represents only the general style of the three-piece set. One gets no idea from this of the unusual beauty, nor of the effectiveness of this ruffled silver effect. The whole set or single pieces will prove exceptionally useful. A cream pitcher, sugar bowl and the large dish make up the set. The large dish may be used for berries, fruit, nuts, whipped cream, jelly, preserves or other purposes, or if preferred as an ornamental centerpiece for the table or mantle, but the pitcher will be useful daily on the dining table, or may be kept for best, and the same with the sugar bowl, which will oftentimes be of use for other things, such as olives, nuts or whipped cream. These sets are unusually large, full size, practical size, the big bowl is seven inches in diameter, four inches high, with capacity of at least three pints, the sugar bowl and cream pitcher are of just the right size, have four feet and handles. Each piece is gold lined and will positively wear for years and give entire satisfaction.

Club Offer. Send only a 15-months' subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for this Gold Lined Silver Set of three pieces, which will be sent by mail or express prepaid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

THE RIGHT ROSES FOR EVERYONE.

Hardy Everblooms, the finest kind for all sections. The great popularity of our previous rose offers combined with the immense lot of pleasure our subscribers derived from growing them has induced us to make a special effort this season to obtain the finest collection of hardy everblooming roses ever produced. They are all strong rapid growers, hardy everywhere and produce great quantities of beautiful fragrant bloom every month of the growing season.

To make your success absolutely sure in the growing of these plants we have made arrangements to have them delivered at the proper time for planting in your locality. Our producer is perfectly familiar with the planting conditions in every section and will know exactly when to ship roses at the most favorable time to set them out. If immediate delivery is desired you must so state when ordering otherwise plants will be sent as per date schedule given below:

DATES TO PLANT ROSES.

Latitude of	Planting Date	After	Feb.
Florida, Calif., Tex.,	after	Feb.	1
Ariz., Okla., So. Car.,	"	Feb.	15
Wash., Tenn., Va.,	"	Apr.	1
Kent., Ind., N. Y.,	"	Apr.	15
Iowa, Ohio, W. Va.,	"	May	1
Mont., Mich., N. Y., and all New England States	"	May	1

Extreme early or late spring would vary dates five to ten days, so in case roses are not received just on date specified, do not be alarmed as they will arrive within a few days. Order today so you may get first choice.

RHEA REID.

A most beautiful and thoroughly distinct rose, possessing every quality to stamp it with the hallmark of perfection. Everyone raves about its extraordinary beauty and after seeing it in bloom, we can appreciate their enthusiasm. It is a strong, healthy grower, throwing long graceful branches which are densely covered with heavy deep green foliage and handsome double flowers, which are produced in the greatest profusion all through the growing season. It has the vitality necessary to withstand all attacks of disease and insects which so frequently destroy our best roses. The color is a vivid scarlet crimson which intensifies as the bloom expands and the flowers are large, full and of perfect form with high center. An invaluable decorative rose; deliciously fragrant, superb in every respect, and especially adapted for garden planting.

SOUV. PRESIDENT DE CARNOT.

This wonderfully handsome new rose is one which excites the admiration of everyone beholding it, and it has so many good qualities that we are certain it will find a welcome place in the garden of every flower lover. It is a remarkably strong growing variety forming a shapely bush in the garden and has proved itself thoroughly hardy from numerous tests. The flowers are exquisitely perfumed large full, double and well shaped with heavy, thick shell-like petals; buds are very long and pointed, perfection in every line. The delicate rosy blush color, shaded a trifle deeper at the center of the flower, has not been approached by any later introduction.

SUNBURST.

No pen picture can do justice to this wonderful new everblooming rose. It is one of the most beautiful varieties ever introduced and we know full well that all who plant it will share with us in our genuine enthusiasm over it. We want every lover of beautiful roses to plant Sunburst, for there is no other like it, either in color, growth or beauty and wherever seen it has created a veritable sensation. Sunburst is the ideal garden rose, strong and vigorous in growth, healthy in every condition, thriving in practically any soil under the most adverse conditions to a perfection seen in no other rose. The splendid flowers borne on strong, upright stems are produced in amazing profusion; in fact, there are few varieties in any class to compare with it in freedom of bloom. They are immense in size, and the color is an intense orange-copper and golden yellow, extremely brilliant in effect and exquisitely beautiful, but most difficult to describe. Sunburst is the premier garden rose of today and its numerous charms cannot fail to delight you.

MY MARYLAND.

A rare combination of a poetic name and exquisite beauty has made this new variety a dangerous rival of all the most famous pink beauties. A great outdoor rose of extreme hardiness, rapidly producing a sturdy, shapely plant, which in itself is a distinct ornament to any garden. The rich green foliage is not the least of its charms, clothing the long erect stems with cool verdant beauty. All summer through the large magnificent flowers are produced; flowers of indescribable charm, perfectly double, composed of thick, heavy petals unsurpassed in elegance of form. As they expand, their beauty seems to be enhanced, the brilliant lively shade of pink deepening until it fairly glows with its warm rich color and delightful fragrance.

WHITE AMERICAN BEAUTY.

This brilliant rose is renowned for the very highest type of its class—the best snow-white rose ever produced. It has won more prizes in Europe than any variety ever produced and well deserves the name that distinguishes it as the white companion of our national red beauty. This rose is an extraordinarily strong grower, branching

freely and having the vigor and hardiness of an oak. The foliage is heavy and of rich texture; but the glory of this plant is its magnificent flowers, huge in size and produced with the greatest freedom on long stiff stems. A single plant will produce hundreds of bloom, which are full, very deep and double, composed of broad, long, charmingly veined petals of splendid substance. The color is marvelously white, positively without a suggestion of and tint or shade of color. The fragrance is nothing short of exquisite; in short this glorious rose seems to have been endowed with all the charm and grace of the entire rose family.

RED DOROTHY PERKINS.

Truly a perpetual source of wonder and the most valuable addition to the popular class of rambler roses that has been produced for some time. It is perfectly hardy having great vigor and sturdiness combined with grace. Special attention should be called to the magnificent foliage produced by this variety; it is fine dark and glossy remaining intact to unreasonable weather and withstanding all diseases which causes the foliage to rust and look shabby. This quality alone assures an ornamental climber which is nearly evergreen and its graceful pendulous habit will place it first among pillar roses. The marvelous production of bloom is really sensational; the remarkable beauty and striking effect of a plant in full bloom must be seen to be thoroughly appreciated. The bloom is produced in great clusters, each individual rose being perfect in form and very double, the color being deep intense scarlet crimson which retains its vivid brilliancy as long as the flower lasts.

If you send your order NOW, EARLY, you are assured first choice of best stock, to be shipped direct to you from the nursery, carefully packed with instructions all ready for planting with assurance of positive results or we replace free.

TO THOSE WHO SEND NOW we make this liberal offer for early acceptance: Send us one new subscriber to COMFORT (the same must be for some person whose name is not now on our list) and we will immediately send you the assortment of Six Choice Roses. If you wish to extend your own subscription and obtain Six Roses, send 35 cents for COMFORT for 12 months and receive Roses Free. A club of two subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months secures One Dozen Roses, two of each. Remember we guarantee success and urge the importance of ordering early.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

KEEP YOUR MONEY

Don't Spend A Penny

until you have seen it, until you have tried it, until you know what it is and what it will do for you. Don't take any risk, for you don't have to. We will take all the risk. Keep your money right in your pocket until you know and are sure, without a doubt. Keep your money until you are satisfied to pay it for benefits received. Keep your money until we have proven we have all that we claim. Keep your money until Bodi-Tone has done all for you, right in your own body, right in your own home, that you think it ought to do for you. You cannot lose anything if you don't pay anything, and we want you to keep your money.

Get out your scissors or knife and cut out the coupon. Write your name and address plainly on same and mail it to us. This is all we ask, all we want, all we need, for we know we can depend on Bodi-Tone to do the rest, when it gets to work in your body.

We believe in Bodi-Tone, we know what it does for the sick, and we back our own belief with our own money. We don't ask you to believe or to pay any money until you have seen, until you know. That's the kind of people we are, that's the kind of remedy Bodi-Tone is, that's the kind of way, and the only way, that we want you to try it—*at our risk*. If you want to try such a remedy, if you want to deal with people who don't want your money until you are benefited, if you want to get cured without waste of money, send the coupon immediately and start the treatment which thousands have followed to perfect health.

Bodi-Tone Does Just As Its Name Means

It cures disease by *toning all the body*, and we want to show you what it will do for your body. Bodi-Tone is a small, round tablet, that is taken three times every day. Each box contains seventy-five tablets, enough for twenty-five days' use, and we send you the full box on trial, so you can try this great remedy and learn what it is, so you can learn how it works in the body, how it cures stubborn diseases by helping nature to tone every organ of the body. Tone is a little word, but it means a great deal, everything in health. When all the organs are doing their part, when each is acting in a perfectly natural way, when all the functions are healthy and performed with natural vigor, when the energy, strength and power of resistance to disease are all at a natural point, then the body is in proper tone. When disease has attacked any part, when lack of vitality is found and felt, the tone of the entire physical body should be raised to the highest possible point, to make all the body help to cure and restore. This is the power which underlies all of Bodi-Tone's great work for the sick, this is the power it offers you to help you get new health and new strength, new vigor and new vitality.



Bodi-Tone contains Iron, which gives life and energy to the Blood, Sarsaparilla, which drives out its impurities, Phosphate and Nux Vomica, which create new nerve energy and force, Lithia, which aids in the Kidneys and dissolves rheumatic deposits, Gentian, which does invaluable work for the Stomach and Digestive forces, Chinese Khabarb and Oregon Grape Root, which promote vigorous Liver activity, Peruvian Bark, which raises the tone of the entire system, Golden Seal, which soothes the inflamed membrane and checks Catarrhal discharges, Castor, which gives the Bowels new life in a natural way, and Capsicum, which makes all more valuable by bettering their absorption into the blood. Each exerts a special action in some organ or function that helps to bring the whole body back to health.

Natural Curatives To Make Natural Health

Each Bodi-Tone ingredient adds a needed element from nature to the body, for Bodi-Tone is altogether a *natural remedy*. Each has a certain work to do in the body and does it well, in a natural manner. They are used in Bodi-Tone because of this ability. We claim no credit for discovering these valuable ingredients, each of which has a well deserved place in established medical science. We claim only the credit for our successful Bodi-Tone formula, which is our own discovery, for the way in which we have selected, proportioned and combined these great natural curatives, and for the health-making work which Bodi-Tone has so well proven its ability to perform in the body. The curative forces which Bodi-Tone so ably uses are the forces which have always existed in nature for the restoration of the body's health. Many are regularly prescribed by good physicians in combination with such drugs as each doctor may favor, for there are wide differences of opinion among doctors of various schools. The *exact combination used in Bodi-Tone* is what gives it the far-reaching and thorough curative and restorative power that makes possible the remarkable cures experienced by Bodi-Tone users, cures which prove the difference between Bodi-Tone and common remedies, cures which have won the gratitude of thousands.

No One Is Too Old To Use Bodi-Tone

Thousands of weak and feeble old men and women have sent for Bodi-Tone on trial, and found it put new flesh on their bones, new vigor in their minds, new vim in their muscles, and new vitality into every vital function. If there is anything wrong in any part of your body, if any organ is acting in a way which you realize and know is not right, send for Bodi-Tone on this trial

offer and give it a chance to set you right. If you do not feel right, eat right, sleep right, weigh right, work right and think right, now and all the time, put Bodi-Tone in command of your body for twenty-five days. Let it marshal your bodily forces, let it line them up and work them into shape, until all are marching along straight, strong and harmoniously, in perfect time, tune and tone, for that is what Bodi-Tone is for and what it is doing for thousands. If the doctor's prescriptions and ordinary medicinal combinations have failed, let this scientific combination of special remedies show and prove what it can do for you. Its greatest triumphs have been among men and women who had chronic ailments, who had used patent medicines and had doctored with their local doctors and out-of-town specialists, all without lasting benefit. It is because of its great work in these cases that all chronic sufferers and persons with obstinate diseases are invited to try a dollar box of Bodi-Tone at our risk.

Why Be a Slave To Bad Health?

Why remain in ill-health month after month, why allow your body to make you a slave to ill, humours, distress and discomforts, when it is so easy to procure a trial box of this home treatment which has restored thousands to vigorous health and glorious strength? Why delay another day, when a trial of this proven medicine is yours for the asking? Why keep on suffering, when by filling in your name and address on the trial coupon and mailing it to us, you can get a full twenty-five days treatment of this great remedy which people everywhere are praising and talking about? It just costs a two-cent stamp, and you don't need to pay a single penny for the medicine unless Bodi-Tone benefits you. You have all to win and nothing to lose, no matter what your ailment may be, by thus trying it.

Not a Secret Medicine

When you use Bodi-Tone you know just what you are using, know it is pure and safe and know you are taking the right kind of medicine to provide real help for the body. It contains nothing that your own family doctor will not endorse and say is a good thing. It does not depend on killing pain with cocaine, opium, morphine or other dangerous drugs. It does not excite the body with alcohol, but it tones the body and cures its disorders with remedies nature intended to tone and cure the body when that power was given them, and we tell you here just what they are and what they do.

Thousands of Cures

of Rheumatism, Stomach Trouble, Kidney, Liver and Bladder Ailments, Uric Acid Diseases, Female Troubles, Bowel, Blood and Skin Affections, Dropsy, Piles, Catarrh, Anaemia, Sleeplessness, LaGrippe, Pains, General Weakness and Nervous Break-down have fully proven the power and great remedial value of Bodi-Tone in such disorders. Each one got a dollar box on trial, as we offer to you in the coupon at the bottom of this page.

Its history of success has proven beyond a shadow of doubt how the Bodi-Tone plan of *toning all the body* is a right plan that helps to cure these and other disorders, that it is a *real aid to nature*. Many who had for years been in poor health and had tried good doctors and most of all of the prominent medicines, have found that one single box of Bodi-Tone did more good than all other treatments combined. It goes to the root in the body and cures because its work is rational and thorough, the only kind that makes cures permanent. It makes the body right, which it may have been for years before the ailment became deep-rooted. Health through Bodi-Tone means health in every sense.

You Owe Your Body A Trial Of Bodi-Tone

No matter what your trouble may be, if you need help, if you want help, here is a chance for you. If you want to stop the use of medicine, if you want to stop the strain and drain of continual drugging and dosing, send for Bodi-Tone on this trial offer and give it a chance to *tone your body and make it healthy*, for healthy bodies need no medicine. How can you, in justice to yourself and family, pass Bodi-Tone by when it is curing the sick by the thousands, when you can try it without paying a penny for the medicine until it benefits you. You owe your body a trial of Bodi-Tone, for you have never used a medicine that cures disease by toning all the body. Read the reports from men and women who got Bodi-Tone on trial, typical of the thousands, in all parts of the country, and then send the coupon for a box on trial and try it for yourself. Don't delay or put it off. Bodi-Tone's work is to restore the human body to a high state of efficiency, and the remarkable record of cures it has gained proves how well it does it. It is adding to its fame month after month, adding to its long list of cures, by consistently doing the good work for which it was conceived and born to the world of sick. All we ask of the sick, all we ask of you, is to test it, to use it for twenty-five days, to give it a chance to prove what it can do, for a trial proves its power.

Rheumatism and Heart Trouble

MOUND CITY, KANSAS.—I suffered for over thirty years with Rheumatism and what the doctors pronounced Lumbago in my hips. The weakness was such that I could stand on my feet but a few minutes at a time. My Heart, too, was irregular and sometimes would skip beats. I was so nervous that I could hardly hold a cup of coffee without spilling it. I had no appetite and was all run down. My Kidneys were bad, for I had to get up several times during the night and could not sleep much. Sometimes the urine was scant and high-colored, with brick-dust. My feet and ankles were badly swollen.

Life seemed almost a burden, for I was past doing my housework all summer. I sent for Bodi-Tone and could see a change after I had used it a week. It is wonderful. I have gained fifteen pounds in weight and do all my work now. I don't know what I would have done without it. MRS. CARRIE D. PRITCHETT.

Broken Down and Despondent

SHORTSVILLE, N. Y.—Bodi-Tone surely acts just as it is advertised to do. I have taken medicine from physicians and patent medicines, but found nothing like Bodi-Tone, and I am praising it up to all my friends. I am 70 years old, and last Spring I was broken down so I could not work. I was despondent and gloomy, and my Kidneys were so bad that I had given up all hope of relief until I saw the Bodi-Tone trial offer and felt it might do what it claimed in my case. It has indeed done much more than I expected any medicine could ever do. I took three boxes. I worked in the hay and harvest fields all through the hot weather and never lost a day, and did as much work as a younger man. I am feeling better now than I have in fifteen years. I also had enlargement of the cords across the Stomach. They were swollen very badly, and that has all disappeared. A. LEONARD.

Saved Her From An Operation

GASTONIA, N. C.—When I began Bodi-Tone I was in a very weak condition, and had tried so many patent medicines which proved of so very little benefit to me that I became discouraged. I had been in very poor health for five years, suffering from different diseases and with a debilitated, run-down system. I was full of Malaria. I had two physicians waiting on me and they gave me only temporary relief and told me I would have to have an operation performed, to which I would not consent. Before I began the use of Bodi-Tone I scarcely had strength enough to dress myself in the mornings and had to stay in bed, not able to do my household duties. When I began the use of Bodi-Tone my improvement was so rapid that within a few weeks I was attending to my household duties and could rest better at night than I had in years. I used three boxes and am now enjoying perfect health and gained ten pounds in weight. MRS. R. M. CURRIE, 321 Chester St.

Great Good At Ninety-Six Years

ZEPHYR, TEXAS.—I want to report that the Bodi-Tone which I used nearly two years ago did me a great and permanent good. My health is very much improved. My heart beats more regularly, my appetite is good and what I eat agrees with me. I sleep very soundly throughout the night, which is wonderful, considering my age, for I am nearly ninety-six years old. I wish every old person could be persuaded to try this wonderful medicine. JOHN G. GIBBONS.

Trial Coupon

Clipped from Comfort

Bodi-Tone Company,
Hoynes & North Aves., Chicago.

I have read your offer of a dollar box of Bodi-Tone on 25 day's trial, and ask you to send me a box by return mail, postpaid. I will give it a fair trial and will send you \$1.00 promptly when I am sure it has benefited me. If it does not help me I will not pay one penny and will owe you nothing. Neither I nor any member of my family have ever used it.

Name _____

Town _____

State _____

Street or R. F. D. _____

Husband and Wife Trial Offer Where husband ailing and need Bodi-Tone, we will send TWO BOXES on trial, with the understanding that each will use a box, and pay us \$1.00 each if benefited. In such cases this Coupon should be signed with the husband's name, followed by the words "and wife."

Put Your Finger On Any One

You can put your finger on any letter you see herein, you can put your finger on any one in any of the books and circulars we publish, and say to yourself: Bodi-Tone cured this person; Bodi-Tone proved its method and plan was right in this case; Bodi-Tone made this person well and strong; Bodi-Tone made new health here; why shouldn't it do as much for me, why shouldn't it cure me, why shouldn't I try it on the trial offer? No offer ever made to the sick equals this Bodi-Tone trial offer in its fairness, liberality and genuine benefit that may be obtained by old and young. It is not an untried, experimental medicine, seeking a reputation, that is offered you, but a medicine that has stood the test for four years time, a medicine that has been tried and proven and found real and right, a medicine which has gained a reputation by its curative work over the entire nation, from coast to coast. One half-million sick men and women have said, "Send me a box of Bodi-Tone on trial" and they got it, without paying a penny in advance, without having to pay a single penny until they were benefited. One half-million men and women have tested it, have seen for themselves what Bodi-Tone is and what it will do, just as we ask you to do right now. Every fair-minded person who reads our trial offer realizes that Bodi-Tone must be an exceptional medicine, that it must be far and above the average, that it must be different from others, or it could not be offered in this liberal way—no benefit no pay. You owe it to yourself to give Bodi-Tone a trial.